MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2015 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

WEATHER CHANGE

Will Midland see snow this weekend? Find out inside.

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PAGEANT PROBLEM

The Miss Universe pageant doubled down on the apologies after announcing incorrectly that Miss Colombia had won and then taking the crown from her head to give to a rival from the Philippines.

Page 8A

Mailing services say shipping business not frantic

Midland companies say foot traffic average, down on Monday before Christmas

By Cassie Burton
cburton@mrt.com

The United States Postal Service estimated that Monday would be the busiest delivery day of the year, mostly because it acts as the deadline for priority mail and is one week after the Postal Service's busiest mailing day of the year, Dec. 14.

As for Midland, the day was not so frantic. Local mailing service offices reported business was either about average or slower. It echoed a season-long trend compared to previous years, some vendors said.

"Under a normal year, we would be swamped," said Suzanne Moore, owner of Suzie Q's Pac n Mail in Midland. "I wouldn't be able to talk to you over the phone. It's our economy. People cut back where they can."

UPS store manager Dawn Smith said that Dec. 7 and Dec. 14, both Mondays, were the busiest days for her staff. However, she was still "shocked" on Monday by the "mediocre" level of foot traffic, estimating that the remaining days before Christmas will be similarly mellow.

"Last year, we were pretty swamped the whole Christmastime. This year, we've actually had people coming in on time to send packages off and not so much our last-minuters who try to get them in and get there before Christmas," Smith said. "If we're not busy today, I don't see us being busy throughout the rest of the week."

Jay Rolston, owner of Express Package Plus, which delivers USPS and FedEx

Please see **TRAFFIC**/2A

SEASON OF GIVING

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Natalie Spellman shops with Detention Officer Darrell Rhea during the annual Shop With A Cop event on Friday at the Wal-Mart in North Midland.

MC math program fast-tracks students to success

By Erin Stone
estone@mrt.com

Midland College's success in implementing a math curriculum that has improved student performance in developmental math courses has earned it recognition by the Texas Success Center.

The Success Center honored MC as an "Exemplar" institution for its implementation of the Math Pathways Project, which is coordinated through the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin.

"The idea behind this is that not all students need to go the college algebra and calculus route when they get a degree," said Margaret Wade, dean of Math and Science at MC, over the phone. "Actually, many students could probably benefit more from a class in statistics or another course — a type of course I just call everyday math."

Many community college students do not score high enough on college entrance exams to go immediately into college-level math, Wade said. The Math Pathways program provides two "pathways" for students to complete developmental math courses more quickly so they then move into college-level math courses sooner.

"We decided that we could fast-track students through the lowest level of math," Wade said. "Then, those who were probably not going to be very interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields, in one semester, they could complete this non-STEM pathway and move on in the spring into their first transfer-level class. For the STEM students, we have one semester of math, and then they can progress into college algebra or business math."

MC originally attempted a similar program about a year ago. However, it was offered to a limited number of students, and the fast-track piece was not

Please see **SUCCESS**/2A

Consumers purchase less expensive gifts this year

By Joyce M. Rosenberg
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Cheap is the new chic for holiday gifts.

Jana Montero, who in the past has bought loved ones iPods and tablets for Christmas, has changed her attitude about gift giving: This holiday season, she's grabbing candle sets and serving dishes that cost under $30 to give to family and friends.

Montero, who lives in New York and is saving to buy a home with her husband, said: "We want to make sure we're conscious of what we're spending."

More holiday shoppers are expected to be like Montero this holiday season in the latest twist in a theme that has played out since the recession. For nearly a decade, shoppers have been more cautious and practical about their spending, doing more bargain shopping and hunting for deals. But recently, shoppers have taken that practice a step further.

They're becoming more open to buying gifts that in the past might have been considered downright cheap. So, they're not just looking for big discounts on extravagant, expensive designer and brand name goods; they're starting out with the intention of getting less expensive items they might not have considered buying as gifts in the past.

The number of people willing to buy gifts during this holiday shopping season for under $10 rose to 4 percent this year from 1 percent last year, according to a survey of 1,000 people by America's Research Group, a firm that researches consumer behavior. Meanwhile, the number of people willing to spend between $26 and $35 fell to 18 percent from 22 percent.

Overall, people are expected to spend modestly more this holiday season. The National Retail Federation predicts holiday spending in November and December will be up 3.7 percent to $630.5 billion this year, slower than the 4.1 percent growth during the same period last year.

The shift in attitude toward cheap is partly rooted in economics, says Jeff

Please see **GIFTS**/2A

Weather
Partly sunny
70/47
Get your complete forecast on 3B

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$34.74 ▲	$0.01
WTI Posted	$31.00 ▼	$0.25
WTS Posted	$26.55 ▼	$0.25
Natural Gas	$1.911 ▼	$0.144
Gasoline	$1.849 ▲	$0.010

The big number
The Red Cross says about
15.7 million
blood donations are collected each year. Page 4A

Classroom Pioneer
Meet this week's featured educator. Page 1B

Holiday Extra
Pics of Boys & Girls Club Christmas party. Page 4B

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Daily $1, Sunday $2

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Thing to do

Live Trivia, 7 pm. Tuesdays at Basin Burger House.

Community calendar

The Commemorative Air Force's High Sky Wing is planning Christmas Light Night Flights through Wednesday. The flights are $80 a person; the co-pilot seat is $150, according to a press release.

The Spirit of West Texas — which was at Midland Army Air Field during World War II — holds five passengers. Passengers will receive a Christmas ornament, hot chocolate and cookies.

To book a flight go to rides@highskywing.org or call 703-3142.

Support groups and club meetings today

Note: Subject to change due to the holidays

■ Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.

■ Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.

■ Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m., Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.

■ Classic Movie Club, 7 p.m., Cigar Frog's, 216 N. Main St.; 687-1671.

■ Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1303 E. Taylor, bingo games 7 p.m.

■ Permian Basin Dance Club Club with live country western bands, 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m., St. Stephen's ballroom, 4601 Neely St. 432-520-4343 or 432-296-9840.

Christmas schedule

Grocery stores

■ H-E-B: Closes 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve

■ Albertsons: Closes 7 p.m. Christmas Eve

■ Market Street: Closes 7 p.m. Christmas Eve; reopens 6 a.m. Saturday

■ Wal-Mart: Closes 8 p.m. Christmas Eve; reopens 6 a.m. Saturday

Restaurants open on Christmas Day

■ 117 Eatery (in the DoubleTree by Hilton), 117 W. Wall St.: Lunch buffet - 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

■ Buffalo Wild Wings, 5107 W. Wadley Ave.: 4 p.m.- 2 a.m. Friday

■ Denny's, 3701 W. Wall St.: 24 hous

■ Furr's, 1116 N. Midkiff Road: 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

■ Grand Buffet, 2510 N. Louisiana Ave.: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

■ IHOP, 2507 W. Loop 250 & 301 E. Interstate 20: Closes 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve; 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Christmas Day; reopens 7 a.m. Dec. 26

■ Riley's Bar & Grill, 3421 W. Wall St.: Free buffet beginning 2 p.m.

■ Shahi Tandoor, 3400 W. Wall St.: 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5-9:30 p.m.

■ Torinos, 3303 N. Midkiff Road: opens 8 p.m.

Know a member of the military coming home?

Military families can call 352-0785 or email Vickie Gomez (zemogv@cableone.net) when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Airport so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them

Honor those who served

There are many organizations in operation right here in the Permian Basin that are at the task of serving all kinds of needs for present and former members of our military. Some of them are:

■ Show of Support (687-2167)

■ Honor Our Troops (889-0177), Reel Thanx (528-6633)

■ Centers for Children and Families (570-1084)

■ Midland College Veterans Affairs Office (685-4511)

■ Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee (366-3458)

■ Soldiers of Today and Yesterday (631-3429)

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 8-4-8
Pick 3 day: 6-9-6
Pick 3 evening: 7-2-9
Pick 3 night: 2-8-1
Daily 4 morning: 8-4-0-9
Daily 4 day: 2-7-5-4
Daily 4 evening: 2-7-5-4
Daily 4 night: 3-6-7-0
Cash Five: 01-06-10-11-16
Texas Two Step: 02-22-29-32, Bonus: 32
All or Nothing morning: 01-03-04-05-07-08-09-11-17-18-23-24
All or Nothing day: 03-07-11-13-15-17-18-19-20-21-22-23
All or Nothing evening: 01-02-05-08-10-11-13-16-18-21-22-23
All or Nothing night: 04-05-06-08-10-11-16-17-20-21-22-23

Today in history

In 1944, during the World War II Battle of the Bulge, U.S. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe rejected a German demand for surrender, writing "Nuts!" in his official reply.

In 1965, "Doctor Zhivago," David Lean's epic film adaptation of the Boris Pasternak novel starring Omar Sharif and Julie Christie, had its world premiere in New York.

In 2001, Richard C. Reid, a passenger on an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami, tried to ignite explosives in his shoes, but was subdued by flight attendants and fellow passengers. (Reid is serving a life sentence in federal prison.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama signed a law allowing gays for the first time in history to serve openly in America's military, repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Associated Press

UPS workers guide a container across a floor containing casters after it was unloaded from an airplane Nov. 20 at Worldport in Louisville, Ky.

Shipping mania: Rushing to deliver millions of holiday gifts

By Scott Mayerowitz
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The humming is constant; a low-pitched drone from 155 miles of conveyer belts racing packages in every direction. Boxes shift from one belt to another and bump into a metal wall. Thud. Thud. Thud. In the background, trucks beep and jet engines roar.

Forget jingling bells and ho-ho-hos, these are now the sounds of the holidays.

As more gift-givers shop online, there are more packages to ship. Online sales now account for 10 percent of all shopping and 15 percent during the holidays, according to research firm Forrester. That leaves FedEx and UPS with a combined 947 million packages to deliver between Black Friday and Christmas Eve — up 8 percent from last holiday season's forecasts.

For UPS, the key to getting all those last-second orders delivered on time is Worldport, a massive sorting facility located between the Louisville airport's two main runways. On a typical night, 1.6 million packages pass through. Just before Christmas, there can be 4 million, peaking on Monday night.

(UPS plans to deliver about 36 million packages today, its busiest day of the year, up from 35 million last year. That includes all of Worldport's shipments plus those traveling by truck.)

Standing next to the runways just after midnight, jet headlights can be seen lined up miles away. Every 60 seconds another plane lands on one of the two parallel runways and pulls up to the facility — the size of 90 football fields — to unload its goods.

If everything goes right, the packages are just touched twice by humans: first when pulled out of large aircraft shipping containers and then again at the end of their journey through the conveyors and into a new bin and another jet.

The past two years have been rough for express shippers.

In 2013, they underestimated American's growing fervor for online shopping. Throw in bad weather, and deliveries backed up. Some gifts didn't arrive in time for Christmas. UPS and Fedex spent heavily last year to ensure better performance, but still had some major hiccups. Staples, Toys 'R Us, Best Buy, Crate & Barrel, J.C. Penney and Kohl's were among the retailers who missed delivery to at least one part of the country, according to industry tracking firm StellaService.

To prevent similar mishaps, UPS and FedEx have been working with major retailers to hone their forecasts and have scheduled their extra holiday workers to better meet the shipping spikes right after Thanksgiving and the weekend before Christmas. Some third-party tracking services have signaled a few issues with 2015 deliveries but UPS spokesman Mike Mangeot said last week that more than 96 percent of packages are being delivered on time in December and that UPS expects packages to arrive by Christmas.

"In many cases customers are receiving the packages earlier than promised as we are advancing deliveries to make sure the network remains ready for any spikes as last-minute Christmas shipping approaches," Mangeot said.

GIFTS

From 1A

Green, a retailing consultant based in Phoenix. Shoppers who vigilantly watched their budgets during the recession continue to feel the pressure of keeping tabs on what they're spending even as the economy improves. "Even with the unemployment rate down, I don't think people feel secure in their jobs," he says.

But it's also rooted in a change in consumer psychology. Some shoppers have become suspicious of retailers who continually slash prices, retail consultant Paco Underhill says. In other words, people are beginning to question whether they're paying too much for the gifts that they're buying, so now they're starting out with the expectation that they'll buy really cheap items.

"One of the deeply confusing elements to the consuming public is: What is the real cost of something?" he says.

Is snow on the way for Midland this weekend?

From staff reports

The National Weather Service is expecting big changes to one of the warmest Decembers on record in Midland.

There is a chance of snow Saturday and Sunday. And while the National Weather Service is calling for a high of 70 degrees on Christmas Day, a 31-degree drop in the high temperature is expected 48 hours later.

This has been one of the warmest Decembers on record at Midland International, according to NWS, with an average temperature of 50.0 degrees through Sunday.

Weekend precipitation will add to a yearly total — 21.55 inches — that is among the wettest in the city's recorded history (currently eighth).

By the numbers

Warmest Decembers in Midland on record

1. 1970.....50.7 degrees
2. 1946.....50.1 degrees
2. 1933.....50.1 degrees

Source: National Weather Service

Price of gas in Midland-Odessa trails Lubbock, state averages

From staff reports

The average price of gasoline in Midland-Odessa fell nearly 2 cents this past week but still trails the average in Lubbock, Amarillo and across the state.

GasBuddy's daily survey of 156 outlets in Midland-Odessa reports an average of $1.82. The gasoline price website reports an average of $1.68 in Lubbock, $1.77 in Amarillo and $1.79 across the state. The national average fell to $1.99.

GasBuddy reported prices on Sunday were 48.7 cents per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and less than a cent higher than a month ago. The national average has decreased 8.4 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 39.4 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

TRAFFIC

From 1A

parcels, echoed that economically depressed years, such as 2008, or periods when oil prices are down often mean less packages. However, last week was still busy for Rolston.

"I think it's because people are out of school and traveling now," Rolston said. "They got most of their stuff taken care of last week."

Mondays and Tuesdays are typically when people mail or receive the most packages, according to Rolston and Smith, and the middle of the month is when most packages are ordered, Moore said.

"I don't know what ignites people, but something does, and it's always on the 15th of December," Moore said, describing the surge in processing. "I have way more gift wrap right now than shipping, but I've done a lot of shipping, too. I normally have a line to the door from the time we open to the time we close. We just don't have that this year."

Letters and bulk mail draw a similar picture, although it's more standard. Jeff Taylor and Bryan Katef of Permian Pre-Sorting Services manage the bulk commercial mail delivered for nonprofits and schools.

"It's been a little slow today but nothing outstanding," Taylor said on Monday afternoon.

Both said their busy time is Thanksgiving rather than the week before Christmas.

"Probably last week, (our business) started dying down," Katef said.

Follow Cassie on Twitter at @Cassie_Burton51

SUCCESS

From 1A

part of the equation.

"We learned a lot from that, and I think we just decided that if we're going to make this work, we need to put a hundred percent into it," Wade said. "It can't be just a few students who do this and the rest do it the traditional way."

There are about 500 students in Pathways classes, Wade said. About 60 percent of non-STEM students completed the program in one semester, and there was about a 67 percent success rate for STEM students. That's huge, Wade said, given that most schools only see about a 20- to 30-percent success rate.

"What we've seen is students get bogged down in developmental education — and this is true with reading and writing, also. If you have three courses that you have to take prior to taking any college work, it does become discouraging," Wade said. "So, I'm hoping that students will see this as a way to fast pace, and if they'll just give it their all for a semester, then they'll be ready for the first transfer-level class."

The current Math Pathways program has two courses that meet four times a week for an hour. MATH 0481 is designed for non-STEM students, and MATH 0482 is designed for students interested in entering STEM fields.

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The Midland Reporter-Telegram will carry this season's POWER POINTS Football Contest, which features a weekly grand prize of $1,000.

Along with other newspapers in the South region, the Midland Reporter-Telegram will publish the contest for 17 weeks, beginning September 6th. Entry forms publish every Sunday and Monday in the sports section.

In addition to the $1,000 regional grand prize, a local prize of a $50 gift card from Domino's Pizza will be awarded each week.

In POWER POINTS, the object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points each week as you can. Contestants select winners from each week's list of games – mostly NFL action but with a smattering of top regional college games. Contestants pick their winners and plot them along a weighted point scale according to their confidence in them. Your highest-confidence pick goes on the 16-point line, your lowest-confidence pick on the 1-point line.

The contestant regionally who tallies the most of the 136 points each week wins $1,000. The local contestant who tallies the most of the 136 points is the local winner.

To enter the contest, drop off your entries at Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, Texas.

Weekly deadline for entry is 2 p.m. on Thursdays.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

AT YOUR SERVICE

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Q&A: Hundreds of tips in search for teen in the 'affluenza' case

Associated Press

DALLAS — Authorities on Monday provided the latest developments in the search for a Texas teenager who received only probation for causing a drunken car crash that killed four people after his lawyers said he suffered from "affluenza" because his wealthy parents had coddled him too much. Ethan Couch, 18, missed an appointment with his probation officer two weeks ago, leading authorities to issue the juvenile equivalent of an arrest warrant for him. Investigators believe he fled with his mother, with whom he had been living. Here are some answers to questions surrounding the case:

What are authorities saying about the case?

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson said Monday that investigators have received hundreds of leads in their search for Couch, but cautioned that such tips can be a "double-edged sword" because they can lead investigators down dead ends. He said he thinks Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, is helping him avoid capture and that they may be travelling in her black pickup truck. Authorities also confirmed that Tonya Couch's mother filed a missing person report on her daughter over the weekend.

Do authorities know where Couch may be?

Officials say they don't know his whereabouts and have expressed concern that he may have left the country, although Sam Jordan, a spokeswoman for the Tarrant County district attorney's office, has said there's no specific indication that Couch has crossed the border. The U.S. Marshals Service has issued a wanted poster promising a reward of up to $5,000 for information leading to Couch's whereabouts and capture.

Why would he have fled?

Tarrant County investigators were looking for Couch to ask him about a video posted online a few weeks ago showing people at a party playing drinking games. One of them appears to be Couch, and if found to be drinking, it would violate his probation and he could be sent to prison for up to 10 years. Anderson has said he thinks Couch and his mother may have fled in late November, in the days after the video emerged online and shortly after Couch attended a mandatory meeting with his probation officer.

Is Couch's mother facing charges?

Terry Grisham, spokesman for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department, said investigators haven't confirmed whether Tonya Couch fled with her son, and he declined to say whether she's facing any charges.

Where is Couch's father?

Anderson says Couch's father, Fred Couch, told investigators he hasn't heard from his son or ex-wife in about two weeks.

Why wasn't Couch already in prison for killing four people?

In June 2013 at age 16, Couch was driving drunk and speeding on a dark two-lane road near Fort Worth when he crashed into a disabled SUV off to the side, killing four people and injuring several others, including passengers in his pickup truck. Couch pleaded guilty to four counts of intoxication manslaughter and two counts of intoxication assault causing serious bodily injury. Because of his age, he wasn't certified as an adult for trial and a judge sentenced him in juvenile court to 10 years' probation and a stint in a rehabilitation center.

Anderson and others have criticized the decision by the judge not to incarcerate the teen. The sheriff says Couch has never expressed remorse for his actions, and his case sparked more outrage than any other Anderson has encountered in his law enforcement career.

What is 'affluenza?'

During the sentencing phase of his juvenile court trial, Couch's attorneys relied on a defense expert who argued that Couch's wealthy parents coddled him into a sense of irresponsibility — a condition the expert termed affluenza. The condition is not recognized as a medical diagnosis by the American Psychiatric Association, and its invocation drew widespread criticism and ridicule.

Texas AG says banning guns in college dorms violates new law

By Will Weissert
Associated Press

AUSTIN — The attorney general of Texas said late Monday that banning guns in college dorm rooms violates the state's newly approved "campus carry" law, and also opined on setting limits for carrying weapons onto public school grounds and into multiuse government buildings.

Republican Ken Paxton's flurry of nonbinding opinions addressed many much-watched issues, but could also spark a showdown with the University of Texas. His decision came barely a week after a panel at the school's flagship Austin campus recommended allowing concealed guns inside classrooms but banning them in dorms and at sporting events.

The law taking effect in August requires public universities to designate specific areas where people with concealed handgun permits can carry their weapons. Lawmakers approved it despite strong opposition from students, faculty and even University of Texas System Chancellor William McRaven, the former head of U.S. Special Operations Command who directed the raid that killed Osama Bin Laden.

"If a public institution of higher education placed a prohibition on handguns in the institution's campus residential facilities, it would effectively prohibit license holders in those facilities from carrying concealed handguns on campus, in violation of the express terms of Senate Bill 11," Paxton wrote, referring to the measure's title when it was debated and approved in the Republican-controlled state Legislature.

The recommendations, compiled by a working group of faculty, students and others, still need to be reviewed by University of Texas-Austin President Greg Fenves, who has said he has "deep concerns" about the law and its impact on campus safety.

"An individual whose legal rights have been infringed due to a president or chief executive officer of a public institution adopting regulations that exceed the authority granted in Senate Bill 11 would likely have standing" to bring a lawsuit, Paxton wrote.

Supporters of the new law say it's protected by the Second Amendment and critical to self-defense. They, and opponents alike, point to the 1966 mass shooting at the University of Texas, when Charles Whitman killed 16 people and wounded dozens more from his perch atop the campus clock tower.

The law allows carrying concealed weapons on college campuses but only with a permit which Texans must be 21 years old to obtain. That means many college students are too young to qualify.

Also during this year's session, lawmakers approved an "open carry" law, which lets license holders carry handguns holstered to their hips or otherwise in plain sight. It takes effect Jan. 1.

Paxton has been indicted on federal securities fraud charges stemming from before he became attorney general in January. Also Monday, he issued an opinion backing $200 million-plus in vetoes by first-year Republican Gov. Greg Abbott.

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CRIMEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Man allegedly drives over woman's foot with car

A 19-year-old Midland man was arrested Friday for purposefully running over a woman's foot with his car, according to court documents.

Albert V. Alvarado was being held Monday on a $25,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

On Thursday night, police were dispatched to the 4200 block of North Garfield Street in reference to an alleged assault, according to Alvarado's affidavit. There they encountered the alleged victim, whose left foot was inflamed and hands had minor cuts, according to the affidavit.

The alleged victim explained that she and Alvarado had gotten into a verbal argument in the car because of Alvarado calling her names, according to the affidavit. Alvarado then ordered the alleged victim out of the car, which she did, according to the affidavit.

A few moments later, Alvarado drove the vehicle forward, which resulted in the rear passenger side tire rolling over the woman's foot, according to the affidavit. The female then got into the vehicle through the rear door and struck Alvarado multiple times in his head with her fists, according to the affidavit.

Alvarado then drove away. When police interviewed him, he appeared "very nervous and continued to change his story," according to the affidavit. The female stated she wanted to press charges against Alvarado and Alvarado stated he wished to pursue charges against the female for physically assaulting him, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of the second-degree felony, Alvarado could face up to 20 years in prison.

Woman allegedly steals more than $26,000 from Centers for Children and Families

A 25-year-old Midland woman was arrested Friday for allegedly stealing more than $26,000 in cash payments clients made to Centers for Children and Families, according to court documents.

Naomi Y. Olgin was being held Monday on a $25,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of theft under $100,000.

Several Centers employees identified Olgin — an ex-employee — as the one responsible, according to her arrest affidavit. When confronted, Olgin admitted to the thefts, according to the affidavit.

The thefts occurred between January 2013 and April 2014, according to the affidavit. The affidavit didn't indicate why there is a time gap between the thefts and Olgin's arrest.

If convicted of the third-degree felony, Olgin could face up to 10 years in prison.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AUSTIN

Police: Man chokes woman in Austin airport line

A police document says a man put a woman waiting in a security line at an Austin airport in a chokehold, saying he was told to "take the devil to hell."

The Austin American-Statesman reports the man, identified by authorities as 23-year-old Derek Tyler Chapman, was arrested and faces a misdemeanor charge of assault with injury after the Saturday incident at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. He remained in Travis County jail Monday on $20,000 bond. Jail records didn't list an attorney for him.

The woman told authorities she didn't know Chapman.

An arrest affidavit says Chapman told a police officer that "he was the son of God, and he was told to take the devil to hell." Chapman also told the officer he felt "a bad vibe" from the woman.

AUSTIN

More Texas troopers on patrol during 8-day holiday period

More Texas troopers will be on patrol during the upcoming holiday season to crack down on drunken drivers and other traffic violations.

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Monday announced the stepped-up patrol effort for Thursday through Sunday and then Dec. 31 through Jan. 3.

DPS troopers made 403 DWI arrests during last year's holiday patrols. That effort also resulted in 7,274 speeding citations, 724 seat belt/child safety seat citations, 292 fugitive arrests and 166 felony arrests.

AAA expects nearly 8.3 million Texans will travel over the upcoming end-of-the-year holidays.

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Associated Press

Las Vegas Metro police and crime scene investigators look over a sedan believed to have been involved in an incident where police said a woman intentionally swerved her car into pedestrians on the Las Vegas Strip, killing one person and injuring at least 30 others in Las Vegas on Sunday.

Suspect in Vegas crash said she was stressed living in car

By Sally Ho and Ken Ritter
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A homeless woman accused of slamming a car carrying her 3-year-old daughter into a crowd of pedestrians on the Las Vegas Strip told authorities she was stressed out after being chased by security guards from parking lots where she had been trying to sleep before the crash, according to a police report obtained Monday.

Lakeisha N. Holloway, 24, resided in Oregon and had been in Las Vegas for about a week in her 1996 Oldsmobile sedan, parking it at garages throughout the city, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.

After her arrest, Holloway "described a stressful period today where she was trying to rest/sleep inside her vehicle with her daughter but kept getting run off by security of the properties she stopped at," the police report states.

"She ended up on the Strip, 'a place she did not want to be,'" the report quoted her as saying. "She would not explain why she drove onto the sidewalk but remembered a body bouncing off her windshield, breaking it."

Investigators said Holloway had run out of money, and she and her daughter had been living in the car. Police believe she was headed to Dallas to find her daughter's father after they had a falling out.

Holloway is accused of intentionally mowing down people on a busy stretch of Las Vegas Boulevard, killing a woman from Arizona and injuring dozens of others Sunday night.

After the crash, she parked at a casino a few blocks away, told a parking attendant that she had run down people and asked the valet to call 911, Lombardo said. Her daughter, who was in the backseat, was not hurt.

The sheriff said Holloway was stoic when police arrived, showed no resistance and spoke coherently about what happened. He declined to elaborate on what she said.

"She didn't appear to be distressed due to her actions. That's the best way I can describe it," Lombardo said.

Authorities declined to comment on a potential motive and said they were struggling to piece together Holloway's background.

She changed her name to Paris Paradise Morton in October, according to Oregon court records.

Several years ago, Holloway, a graduate of an alternative high school, received an award for overcoming adversity from the nonprofit Portland Opportunities Industrial Center.

In 2012, she told The Skanner, a newspaper that covers Portland's African-American community, that she was homeless during her freshman year in high school.

Holloway's cousin, Lashay Hardaway, told The Oregonian that Holloway worked hard to provide for her daughter.

The crash happened in front of the Paris and Planet Hollywood casino-hotels and across from dancing water fountains of the Bellagio hotel-casino. Droves of visitors to the stretch walk from one casino to another.

The Miss Universe pageant was being held at Planet Hollywood at the time of the crash.

People jumped on the car and banged on its windows, but Holloway didn't stop driving on the sidewalk, Lombardo said. The car was fully on the sidewalk twice, including once when it traveled for 200 feet, police said.

There was no evidence that Holloway had consumed alcohol, but a drug recognition expert at the scene determined that she was under the influence of some sort of stimulant, Lombardo said.

Holloway, who was being held without bail, will be charged with murder with a deadly weapon, said Clark County District Attorney Steve Wolfson, who anticipated "a great number" of additional charges.

"When a person drives a 2,000-pound-plus motor vehicle intentionally onto a sidewalk, killing and injuring scores of people, that's murder," Wolfson said.

Holloway was under suicide watch in jail, said Deputy Clark County Public Defender Scott Coffee said. He said it was too early to say if he would pursue an insanity defense.

At least 35 people injured in the crash were taken to hospitals, including three people still in critical condition with head injuries, officials said. Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center, which treated 13, still had five patients Monday, including two who were upgraded to good condition.

The crash killed Jessica Valenzuela, 32, of Buckeye, Arizona, who was visiting Las Vegas with her husband, according to the Clark County coroner.

Other victims were from Oregon, Florida, Colorado, California, Washington, Mexico, and Quebec, Canada. Five were Canadian citizens, and four were Oregon college students in town to compete in a wrestling tournament.

FDA eases restrictions on blood donations from gay men

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's three-decade-old ban on blood donations from gay and bisexual men was formally lifted Monday, but major restrictions will continue to limit who can give blood.

The Food and Drug Administration said it is replacing the lifetime ban with a new policy barring donations from men who have had sex with a man in the previous year. While the one-year ban has been criticized by activists it matches policies in other countries, including Australia, Japan and the U.K.

Gay rights activists said the new policy is a "step in the right direction," but falls short.

"It continues to stigmatize gay and bisexual men," said David Stacy, of the Human Rights Campaign, the largest U.S. gay rights group. "It simply cannot be justified in light of current scientific research and updated blood screening technology."

Monday's policy shift was first proposed in late 2014 and follows years of lobbying by medical groups and gay rights groups, who said the previous ban was outdated and perpetuated negative stereotypes.

Dr. Peter Marks of the FDA said the change is "backed by sound scientific evidence" and will "continue to protect our blood supply."

The FDA considered eliminating all restrictions on blood donations from gay and bisexual men, but concluded that would increase the transmission of HIV through the blood supply by 400 percent.

"An increase of that magnitude is not acceptable," Marks told reporters.

All U.S. blood donations are screened for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. But there is a roughly 10-day window between initial infection and when the virus can be detected by current testing techniques. The American Red Cross estimates the risk of getting an HIV-positive blood donation is 1 in 1.5 million for all U.S. patients. About 15.7 million blood donations are collected in the U.S. each year.

The lifetime ban was put in place during the early years of the AIDS crisis and was intended to protect the blood supply from what was a then little-understood disease.

The FDA concluded that moving to a one-year abstinence requirement would not change the safety of U.S. blood donations, based primarily on data from Australia. That country has had a one-year rule for active gay and bisexual men for over 10 years.

FDA officials said there are no comparable data using shorter restriction periods.

"Right now there are really no large, major countries with shorter intervals than one year," Marks said during a teleconference.

On the current blood donor questionnaire, men are asked if they have ever had sex with another man since 1977-- the start of the AIDS epidemic in the U.S. Potential donors who answer positively are barred from donating blood. The new questionnaire, as outlined under FDA guidelines, would ask men if they have had sex with another man in the last 12 months.

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Austin recycling program has not brought in expected profits

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A review of city records has found that Austin has not seen expected profits from a curbside recycling program meant to keep the community clean.

In 2011, the Austin City Council hired two companies to handle materials. Austin Resource Recovery, headed by Bob Gedert, originally estimated an annual net income of $488,000 for the program. That estimate was based on projections of $5.25 million in annual revenue from the sale of recyclables against about $4.8 million in processing costs.

In the latest fiscal year, a review of city records shows Austin got a shade under $3 million for its recyclables, even as processing costs hovered around $4.8 million. The city lost $1.9 million last fiscal year and $2.7 million in the two previous years as recyclable materials have fetched less on the open market than the cost to process them.

The Austin American-Statesman reports that city officials say if more residents recycled more, it would be easier to profitably sell a higher volume of material locally, rather than ship it elsewhere in the state, country or even overseas.

Recovery spokeswoman Memi Cardenas says nearly 45 percent of materials that Austin residents send to the landfill could be recycled.

"If Austinites actually recycled that material, the cost per ton to recycle would be lower than the cost per ton to landfill," Cardenas said.

The city plans to build a $7.5 million "(re)Manufacturing Hub," where businesses will repurpose local waste into new products for sale, and guarantee that recycled materials are actually being put to use.

"Recycling costs less than landfilling," Gedert said.

However, Austin City Council member Don Zimmerman said that unless Austin is profiting from trying to reach its zero-waste goal, then it "should be out of the waste business entirely."

Council member Leslie Pool, who chairs the council's Open Space, Environment and Sustainability Committee, said that "As stewards of the environment, it's not always about making money."

PAID CONTENT

for your information

To appear in *For Your Information* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Midland Reporter-Telegram account executive at 682-5311.

The Sales Team Realtors: These three free apps can improve your home search

There's almost nothing you can't use your smart phone for these days, information-wise. From movie schedules to finding the nearest pizza place to listing the signers of the Declaration of Independence, it's all there on your phone.

Now, the Sales Team Realtors has exciting news for anyone who wants to search for a new home on their smartphone—there are three new and—and free—apps that make that very easy.

A recent Google study showed that more and more people are searching for new homes on their smartphone—and millennials in particular are doing it this way. Each of the three apps below offers its own set of advantages.

House Hunter Pro, for iOS and Android, allows buyers to save and compare information for an unlimited number of homes and to score and prioritize the listings that interest them as well as take notes and calculate mortgage payments.

Since every house is located in a neighborhood, which can be a major deciding factor in where to purchase, AroundMe gives you the scope of the area. Designed for iOS, Android and Windows Phone, AroundMe provides a complete list of businesses, including banks, hospitals and restaurants, located near a home's address. You can use this app when touring a home to see what's nearby.

Once you've made your purchase you'll want to start putting your own stamp on your new home, making changes to help it better meet your own needs. To help with that Houzz, for iOS and Android, is full of home design ideas. You can browse ideabooks and articles by style, room and location, save images or articles to refer back to later, and you can save images in order to create an inspiration board. The app also allows you to get in touch with design experts to ask them questions.

You'll also find a lot of useful tools on The Sales Team mobile friendly website, www.salesteamrealtors.com. Click on Property Search to begin looking in Midland or nearby areas. Input your criteria such as price range, bedrooms and more. If you'd like to start by going through open houses, go to the Open Houses tab and plan your route accordingly. In addition, there are tips for both home buyers and home sellers.

Also, find and like The Sales Team on Facebook. They post daily with new information about the local market, upcoming events and inspirational messages.

As wonderful and as time-saving as all these tools are, your best experience comes through working with an experienced real estate professional who can answer your questions and prepare you for success at every step of the buying or selling process. With all the technology in the world, nothing beats the personal touch, which you'll receive from The Sales Team.

So go ahead and boot up that computer, use that smart phone for information—but don't forget to use the phone to call The Sales Team Realtors.

Sure they're tech savvy, but Brian and Laura Lyons Sales and their team are also ready to help you, on a personal basis, to get the home you want or sell the home you have. Call them at 618-1818.

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Are you a member of a secret society?

By Paul Wiseman
FYI Expert

My neighbor Jimmy and I tried to start some secret clubs when we were in grade school. We met in the dog house because it was that big—my dad had gotten it in a trade for a partially broken lawnmower or something. It was way too big for our beagle!

We were so successful that no one but the two of us ever joined these clubs. I remember one of them was called the "Gol-O-Lee Club" because we just sat around and moaned that phrase.

As a business owner, the *last* thing you want to be is a secret. If you find yourself sitting around saying, "Gol-O-Lee, where are the customers?" the MRT and Around the Oil Patch (in Sunday's Oil Report), Healthy Living (Monday's paper) or FYI (Tuesday's paper) can help you reach more customers.

See, we *can't* keep a secret. Whatever you want us to tell, we'll share with more than 11,000 households.

Every week, 75.4 percent of adults 55 and older, 70.9 percent adults aged 35 or older and 56.5 percent of adults ages 18-34 read the paper, either in print, online or in an e-edition. These are potential customers! Lots of readers buy the Sunday paper especially for the Oil Report. What other media outlet has that kind of following?

By reading this far you've verified that stories grab your attention—and that's what these pages are about! In about 500 words we'll tell your story clearly, concisely and, best of all, enthusiastically, generating more business for you.

We can do it as often as you want. The FYI family is a 13-week program, and that gets you a quantity discount. When you run an eye-catching display ad on the page for that stretch of time, you get one or more articles—did I mention it comes with a color photo?—at no extra charge. The larger the ad, the more articles you get, all of which are opportunities to get people to call or stop by.

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OPINION

America's higher education is a house divided

■ Purdue shows blue print for eliminating speech codes

GEORGE WILL
Washington Post Writers Group

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. —

Although he is just 22, Andrew Zeller is a fourth-year Ph.D. candidate in mathematics at Purdue University. He is one reason the school is a rare exception to the rule of unreason on American campuses, where freedom of speech is under siege. He and Purdue are evidence that freedom of speech, by which truth is winnowed from error, is most reliably defended by those in whose intellectual pursuits the truth is most rigorously tested by reality.

While in high school in Bowling Green, Ohio, Zeller completed three years of college undergraduate courses. He arrived at Purdue when its incoming president, Indiana's former Gov. Mitch Daniels, wanted the university to receive the top "green light" rating from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), which combats campus restrictions on speech and rates institutions on their adherence to constitutional principles.

Zeller, president of Purdue's graduate student government, and some undergraduate leaders urged Daniels to do what he was eager to do: Purdue has become the second university (after Princeton) to embrace the essence of the statement from the University of Chicago that affirms the principle that "education should not be intended to make people comfortable, it is meant to make them think." The statement says "it is not the proper role of the university to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable or even deeply offensive," and it endorses "a solemn responsibility not only to promote a lively and fearless freedom of debate and deliberation, but also to protect that freedom when others attempt to restrict it."

Why is Purdue one of just six universities that have now aligned with the spirit of the Chicago policy? Partly because of Daniels' leadership. But also because Purdue, Indiana's land-grant institution, is true to the 1862 Morrill Act's emphasis on applied learning. It graduates more engineers than any U.S. university other than Georgia Tech. It awards more STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) undergraduate diplomas than all but two public research universities (Penn State and Texas A&M). Among such universities, a higher percentage of Purdue students graduate in STEM fields than those of any school other than Georgia Tech and the University of California, San Diego.

Scientists and engineers live lives governed by the reality principle: Get the variables wrong, the experiment will fail, even if this seems insensitive; do the math wrong, the equation will tell you, even if that hurts your feelings. Reality does not similarly regulate the production of Marxist interpretations of "Middlemarch" or turgid monographs on the false consciousness of Parisian street sweepers in 1714. Literature professors "deconstructing" Herman Melville cause nothing worse than excruciating boredom in their students. If engineers ignore reality, reality deconstructs their bridges.

The Yale instructor whose email about hypothetically insensitive Halloween costumes incited a mob has resigned her teaching position. She did so in spite of a letter of faculty support organized by a physicist and signed mostly by scientists, including social scientists, rather than humanities faculty.

In their scalding 2007 book "Until Proven Innocent: Political Correctness and the Shameful Injustices of the Duke Lacrosse Rape Case," Stuart Taylor and KC Johnson plausibly argue that Duke's disgrace — a fictional rape; hysterical academics trashing due process — was driven by the faculty Group of 88. Signatories of its manifesto included "only two professors in math, just one in the hard sciences, and zero in law. ... More than 84 percent described their research interests as related to race, class or gender (or all three). The Group of 88 was disproportionately concentrated in the humanities and some social science departments. Fully 80 percent of the African-American studies faculty members signed the statement, followed by women's studies (72.2 percent) and cultural anthropology (60 percent)."

Higher education is increasingly a house divided. In the sciences and even the humanities, actual scholars maintain the high standards of their noble calling. But in the humanities, especially, and elsewhere, faux scholars representing specious disciplines exploit academia as a jobs program for otherwise unemployable propagandists hostile to freedom of expression.

This is, however, a smattering of what counts as good news in today's climate: For the first time in FIRE's 16 years of monitoring academia's authoritarianism, fewer than half (49.3 percent) of American universities still have what FIRE considers egregiously unconstitutional speech policies. Purdue is one of six universities that eliminated speech codes this year, and one of just 22 with FIRE's "green light" rating.

OUR VIEW

Oxy's West Midland campus offers another testament to oil's future

Another day, another oil industry office complex opened its doors in Midland.

We were blown away by the latest regional headquarters to open for business here in the heart of the oil patch. Occidental Petroleum Corp. has impressed with Oxy Permian Plaza, much like Concho Resources, Fasken, EOG and Pioneer Natural Resources did before it. We expect Chevron will soon add its name to the companies that have spent tens of millions (if not hundreds of millions of dollars) on facilities for the long term. Chevron is completing its regional complex, located in west Midland right across from Oxy's new 212,000-square-foot complex.

Occidental has served the Permian Basin well. Oxy — as the region's largest producer — is responsible for 13 percent of the Permian Basin, according to CEO Stephen Chazen. Oxy's reported Permian Basin production rose 51 percent in the third quarter compared to the third quarter of 2014, Oil Editor Mella McEwen wrote in an article that appeared in Sunday's edition. Vicki Hollub, Occidental's president and chief operating officer, credited Chazen with having the "vision to see that the Permian Basin still held enormous potential as recently as 15 years ago, when many thought the region had seen its best days."

Not only has Occidental succeeded in boosting its primary production, but the company has carbon dioxide-based enhanced oil recovery projects in operation around the Permian Basin that also have increased production, McEwen reported. Combined, officials said, they help Occidental meet the challenges of a low-cost environment.

Still, on a chilly Friday morning when oil prices were lagging in the $35-a-barrel range, it was a building that as McEwen wrote "underscores Occidental's commitment to Midland and to the Permian Basin." It is a commitment matched by other companies that remain focused on the long term. Those top players in the Permian Basin continue with their building projects, keep staffing levels high and continue to bet their community dollars on Midland and its future.

These companies' commitment is a needed reminder to the rest of us to stay focused on a future beyond $30 to $35 oil. We would be smart to follow their lead. As Mayor Jerry Morales said at the opening of Oxy Permian Plaza, "we are a world-class city. ... Midland is more than desert and cactus and tumbleweeds. What the oil and gas industry brings to Midland is amazing."

One just needs to drive down Deauville Boulevard in west Midland to see how amazing it truly can be.

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Latino vote needs investment

■ Try to win the Hispanic community for the long term and do so with more than just token gestures

ESTHER CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

The "Latino vote" has been a political object of desire for the past few election cycles. It has not, however, been taken seriously as a long-term investment.

This should be evident in Latinos' consistently poor showing at the polls. The Census Bureau calculated that fewer than half of all eligible Hispanics turned out to vote in 2012. By comparison, about two-thirds of eligible whites and blacks voted.

That year, despite President Obama's late-in-the-game announcement of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, which allowed certain young undocumented immigrants to be exempted from deportation and become eligible for work permits, the percentage of Latinos casting ballots went down to 48 percent, from 49.9 percent in 2008.

As we hurtle toward the 2016 elections — during which the Senate will be up for grabs with 34 seats contested — America's Voice, the immigration-reform advocacy group, and the Latino Decisions polling organization estimate that more than 13 million Latino voters will have the opportunity to make an impact next November.

But will they?

"There is a lot of under-mobilization and under-voting relative to population, with hundreds of thousands of votes left on the table because Latinos are simply not participating in the process," said David F. Damore, Latino Decisions' senior analyst and an associate professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

At this point, with several of the Republicans tripping over themselves to project anti-immigrant views — and the Democrats apparently hoping that they'll simply look better to Latino voters in comparison — it's unclear whether Latinos will be motivated to turn out next November.

What is clear is that, at least according to Damore, one major reason Latino voters are so unengaged is that efforts at wooing them have been mild and sporadic.

"In our research, we have found that most of the efforts to mobilize Latino voters have been very strategic and candidate-specific but not sustained cycle after cycle," Damore said. "Latinos came out for Obama, but when he was not on the ballot, like in 2014, no one picked up on outreach to Latinos. That lack of sustained effort, and Latinos being so tired of the promises on immigration, contributed to [the] 2014 drop-off in participation.

"Can that be overcome in 2016 when there is practically no chance of comprehensive immigration reform, given [the current deadlock in] the Senate? We've seen Latino voters come out when a candidate put in the time and the money to do the outreach."

Frank Sharry, executive director of America's Voice, concurred with Damore's assessment: "Every community wants to be engaged with and by candidates and parties. But as a close observer of the infrastructure of mobilizing voters, I've seen strong investments in particular races, in particular states — but it's kind of instrumental, late, not sustained and doesn't allow for robust growth toward a more permanent registration and mobilization program."

Sharry suggested that the Republicans' seemingly tacit approval of recent vitriol against immigrants might jolt Latino voters into action. "After Pete Wilson supported Proposition 187," a 1994 ballot initiative to prohibit illegal immigrants in California from using non-emergency health care, public education and other government services, "it turned out to be a mobilizing program of historic proportions. Hispanics turned a once-purple state very blue. But it's unclear whether a Donald Trump nomination ... might have the same effect."

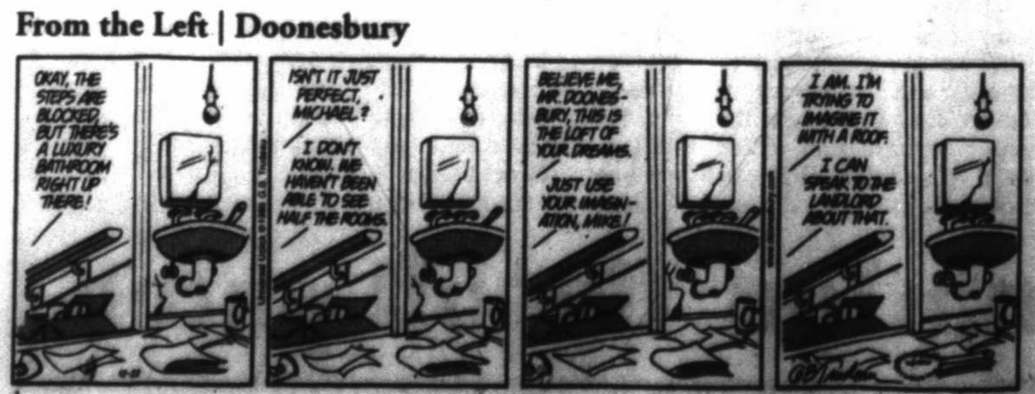
According to Damore, Hispanic turnout isn't a lock — or a certain lost opportunity — for either party. "Latinos are not monolithic Democrats, they don't tie politics to partisan identification."

No matter how you slice it — whether you blame general voter apathy for low turnout or believe that anti-Hispanic rhetoric will wake the so-called Sleeping Giant into action — Latino voters are ripe for being engaged. Not with token photo-ops at Mexican restaurants, a few key minority outreach campaign hires or a Spanish-language campaign website, but for the long term.

Will either party get past its entrenched assumptions about how Latino voters will act? Or will they keep gambling on Hispanic voters not reaching a critical mass anytime soon?

Maybe a better question is: Are Hispanics ready to finally punch at their rightful political weight, or will they settle for being written off again?

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Associated Press

Republican presidential candidate New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie shakes hands with potential supporters as his wife Mary Pat watches during a campaign stop Saturday in Exeter, N.H.

Chris Christie supporters see momentum in New Hampshire

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — All the marathon town hall meetings, the bar visits, house parties and time invested in New Hampshire finally seem to be paying off for GOP presidential candidate Chris Christie.

Poll after poll show the New Jersey governor making gains in the first-in-the-nation primary state. And his supporters say they feel a palpable surge in excitement as the calendar draws nearer to February 9: primary day.

"It's electric," said Barbara Sheehan, a New Jersey native who now lives in Tuftonboro, after hearing Christie speak. "You can just feel the momentum, it's in the air."

Christie and his team seemed eager to show off their progress this weekend, when they kicked off a four-day bus tour across the state inside a cavernous automotive garage. After a parade of high-profile endorsers sung Christie's praises, the governor and his family made a dramatic entrance, pulling into the garage aboard a bus emblazoned with his name and new campaign slogan — "Tell it Like it Is"— as music from "Star Wars" played.

Beyond the shiny new wheels, Christie's team also shipped 120 supporters in from New Jersey to fan across the state, knocking on doors. The move added manpower and helped boost his crowds. But also highlighted that he's significantly understaffed in the state in which he has staked his campaign.

"There's a big difference between paid staff and having to pay people to go door-to-door," Christie told journalists gathered in the town of Derry. "We'll do more work than paid staff has done in a month in a weekend, because people are committed to it and we know how to do this."

Christie has been lining up endorsements, but he is lagging many campaigns in fundraising, meaning that now, leading into the primary, he has less than a quarter of the manpower of some of his rivals.

While a robust ground game is less important in New Hampshire than in early-voting Iowa, where voters must attend time-consuming caucuses, Christie currently has just four paid staffers in the state.

That's far fewer than former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who has 20 full-time staffers spread across five offices and Ohio Gov. Kasich, who has 11 full-time paid staffers and expects to have five offices up and running by the end of the year.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, meanwhile, has eight paid staffers, while poll-leader Donald Trump has 13 working out of four offices.

Still, Christie banked on his charm to win votes, traveling the state to meet the people who could make or break his campaign.

At Billy's Sports Bar in Manchester on Sunday, Christie joined customers to chat as they finished their meals.

"Nobody's listening to us in Washington," complained Manchester's Joe Rolka, who works in sales.

"I'm here to listen," Christie told him as they spoke.

When Christie moved on, Rolka said he was impressed by the governor's unguarded approach.

"After talking to him today, I'm on board. He can have my vote," said Rolka, who'd been on the fence between Christie and billionaire businessman Donald Trump, who has been leading the state's opinion polls.

Joel Maiola, a Christie supporter from Bedford who managed President George W. Bush's campaign in the state in 2000, said he could feel the buzz growing for Christie's campaign. He said he made his final decision about a month ago, after taking a serious looks at Kasich, Bush and Rubio, who are all competing for moderate voters. He said he thinks Christie's time is now.

"It's now to the point where people are making up their minds," he said as he waiting in the bitter cold for Christie to arrive at a local bar Sunday. "If you were any candidate going into the Christmas break, you'd want to be Chris Christie."

To be sure, Trump remains the dominant force in the state, drawing thousands of people to his events.

A recent Franklin Pierce University-Boston Herald poll found Trump to be the favorite of 26 percent of likely Republican voters, more than twice the backing of his closest rival. But Christie is now vying for second place, earning the support of 11 percent of voters in that poll, versus 12 percent for Rubio and 12 percent for Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

Christie's favorability ratings are also on the rise, with 64 percent of voters now holding a favorable impression of him — up 18 points since October.

But the momentum is also attracting new scrutiny for the New Jersey governor, who had been largely ignored by his rivals up until this point.

Former Trump adviser Roger Stone, who is now working with a pro-Trump super PAC, told The Associated Press last week that he is looking to run ads highlighting Christie's record in New Jersey. And Christie, who has been trying to move past the George Washington Bridge scandal that badly damaged his reputation at home, has begun to draw more criticism in debates.

There's also the reality that Christie, who has lagged behind many of his rivals when it comes to fundraising, is badly outgunned when it comes to staff.

Lindsey Graham ends his 2016 presidential campaign

By Laurie Kellman and Bill Barrow
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham ended his 2016 campaign for president Monday, saying he remains committed to working to achieve security for the American people and helping the GOP expand its base.

With just over a month to go until voting begins, the South Carolina senator — the only candidate from one of the four early voting states — posted a video telling supporters "we have run a campaign we can be proud of." He noted his emphasis on national security and improving the nation's balance sheet, saying he "put forth bold and practical solutions to big problems."

In a taped interview broadcast later on CNN, the 60-year-old senator warned that the election is "not about 2016" but instead "an election for the heart and soul of the Republican Party." He warned that the current GOP front-runner Donald Trump cannot defeat a Democrat like Hillary Clinton "without some major adjustments."

Having mustered little support in the polls, Graham's exit will not have an immediate effect on the race in the final stretch before the Feb. 1 Iowa caucuses and the Feb. 9 New Hampshire primary. But his decision could produce a ripple effect in his home state, which follows New Hampshire with a Feb. 20 primary. Graham will likely be a highly sought-after endorsement for those still in the race, though he's given no indication of who he would back.

By ending his campaign, Graham deprives the GOP field of perhaps its most aggressive military hawk — he said even before the June 1 launch of his campaign that more American servicemen and women "will die in Iraq and eventually in Syria to protect our homeland." That was often a stark contrast to other candidates who joined Graham in blasting President Barack Obama as weak in his approach to Islamic State militants, yet hedged when it came to questions of ground forces.

Graham also takes with him a wry sense of humor that he showcased on the campaign trail and in debates — though he never did qualify for one of the prime-time sessions, and was instead relegated to the earlier undercard events. His solution to gridlock in Washington: "We're going to drink more." It was a lesson he attributed to his upbringing in the bar that his parents owned and to the political friendship between Republican President Ronald Reagan and Democratic Speaker Tip O'Neill.

When Trump gave out Graham's cell phone number at a South Carolina campaign stop, Graham answered with a satirical video in which he attempts — multiple times — to destroy his phone. Jabbing at Clinton over her use of a private server, he mocked his own computer illiteracy, saying he's never sent an email at all.

Graham plunged into the contest highlighting his foreign affairs experience in the Senate and arguing that newcomers need not apply for a job that offers no chance for "on-the-job training." At the time, anything was possible because the mob of GOP candidates had no clear leader. But over the summer, political neophytes like Trump and Ben Carson surged to the front of the pack and forced far better-known candidates, such as former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, to fight for support.

Urged to run by 2008 GOP presidential nominee John McCain, Graham never gained traction, failing even to qualify for an undercard debate in November.

An Air Force veteran and reservist, Graham has called Obama "a small-minded guy in big times." After attacks on Paris killed 129 people, Graham pushed for an authorization of military force against the Islamic State that would allow the U.S. to attack the groups' supporters anywhere, with no time limit.

But as he visited core GOP supporters in Iowa and New Hampshire, Graham did not abandon positions that separated him from the GOP's conservative base. In New Hampshire, Graham defended his call for an immigration overhaul that includes both improvements in border security and a path to legal status for the millions of people living in the country illegally.

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Fri. Dec 25th	Thurs., Dec 24, 10am
Sat., Dec 26th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon
Sun., Dec 27th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon
Mon., Dec 28th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon

Classified Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Thurs., Dec 24th	Tues., Dec 22, 5pm
Fri. Dec 25th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sat., Dec 26th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Mon., Dec 28th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm

Retail Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Thurs., Dec 24th	Tues., Dec 22, 5pm
Fri. Dec 25th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sat., Dec 26th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Mon., Dec 28th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Mon., Dec 21, 5pm
(Oil Report\West Texas Living)	

CIRCULATION HOURS

Customer Service calls will be taken Friday, December 25th from 7 AM-11 AM only. Regular hours Monday, December 28th

Miss Universe show, host apologize for crowning the wrong woman

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Miss Universe pageant and host Steve Harvey doubled down on the apologies Monday after an excruciating live television moment — announcing incorrectly that Miss Colombia had won and then taking the crown from her head to give to a rival from the Philippines.

The fallout from Sunday's show made Harvey an online symbol of "oops" moments, drew a reaction from Colombia's president and even a gloating tweet from Donald Trump, the pageant's former owner.

As televised on Fox, the contest was down to Ariadna Gutierrez Arevalo of Colombia and Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach of the Philippines when Harvey, a first-time Miss Universe host, proclaimed Gutierrez the winner after a long dramatic pause.

Music swelled, Gutierrez was fitted for a sash, given flowers and a crown was placed on her head. That made it two straight Miss Universe winners for Colombia, where the pageants are taken seriously. She bathed in applause for nearly two minutes before Harvey slowly made his way back onto the stage.

"I have to apologize," he said. "The first runner-up is Colombia."

The camera switched to a bewildered-looking Wurtzbach, who came back on the stage to get the crown as the same celebratory music repeated. Harvey said she'd be taking her first walk as Miss Universe, but mostly she stood immobile.

Two minutes later, the comedian who hosts his own daytime talk show as well as the game show "Family Feud" returned, saying "let me just take control of this."

Harvey explained on the air that he misread the card he was given with the names of the winners. Colombia was listed as the first runner-up, and he'd been confused with how it was written. He held up the card for the camera.

"It is my mistake," he said. "Still, it's a great night. Please don't hold it against the ladies. We feel very badly, but it's still a great night."

Harvey later tweeted an apology to the women and viewers. "I feel terrible," he wrote. The Miss Universe organization also issued an apology on Monday.

Wurtzbach later said she was happy to win, but confused and concerned for her rival. She said she tried to approach her backstage, but the Colombian contestant was crying and surrounded by a crowd of women.

"I did not take the crown from her," Wurtzbach said.

Celebrations quickly turned to anger in Colombia, where the hashtag "Respect the Crown" was the country's top-trending topic on Twitter. Even the president was upset.

"They put the crown on her head," President Juan Manuel Santos said Monday. "The photos are there to prove it. To me, as a Colombian, she is still Miss Universe."

It was the pageant's first time on Fox, and the Nielsen company said the contest was seen in the United States by 6.2 million people — strong numbers for the network. The previous Miss Universe on NBC, in January, reached 7.7 million people.

NBC dumped the pageant after Trump, its then-owner, angered many Latinos with comments about immigration. Trump subsequently sold the pageant and tweeted after the flub that it "would never have happened" on his watch. He retweeted someone else's comment that Trump must be happy that the pageant had gone "off the rails" after he sold it.

He softened his tone in an interview on NBC's Today Show, calling Harvey a "great guy" who handled it well. Trump said if he were still in charge of the show, he would make the women share the title.

"Things happen," he said. "It's live television."

Harvey, the comedian, found himself the butt of Internet jokes Monday. One prominent post showed his smiling face under the headline: "Happy Friday!" followed by "Wait, sorry, it's Monday."

Last year, the winner of the Miss Florida pageant had to give back her crown following a vote-tabulation error that was noticed days later. And a transcribing error caused the wrong author's name to be announced for a National Book Award in 2011. Neither event happened on live television, however.

Associated Press

Steve Harvey holds up the card showing the winners after he incorrectly announced Miss Colombia Ariadna Gutierrez at the winner at the Miss Universe pageant Sunday in Las Vegas. According to the pageant, a misreading led the announcer to read Miss Colombia as the winner before they took it away and gave it to Miss Philippines Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach.

Outraged Colombians look for blame in Miss Universe mix-up

By Jacobo Garcia
Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia — Colombians celebrated for a little more than two minutes what appeared to be an unprecedented feat for this beauty pageant-obsessed South American nation: back-to-back Miss Universe titles.

From President Juan Manuel Santos to Miss Colombia's relatives in the Caribbean port city of Barranquilla, millions of Colombians who tuned in for Sunday's pageant screamed joyously when it was announced that Ariadna Gutierrez Arevalo had won this year's crown.

But the celebrating turned to shouts of fraud seconds later as host Steve Harvey announced on live television from Las Vegas that he had mistakenly read from the cue card. The contestant from the Philippines was the new Miss Universe, not Miss Colombia.

"They took away her crown," and "the shortest reign in history" was the sentiment expressed almost universally on Twitter, where the hashtag "Respect the Crown" was the country's top-trending topic.

The sudden reversal even caught by the president by surprise, forcing him to reverse his initial celebratory tweet.

"I was watching Miss Universe with my family. We started a huge celebration when they said Colombia had won the Miss Universe title for the second straight year," Santos told Radio Nacional on Monday.

"They put the crown on her head. The photos are there to prove it. To me, as a Colombian, she is still Miss Universe," he said.

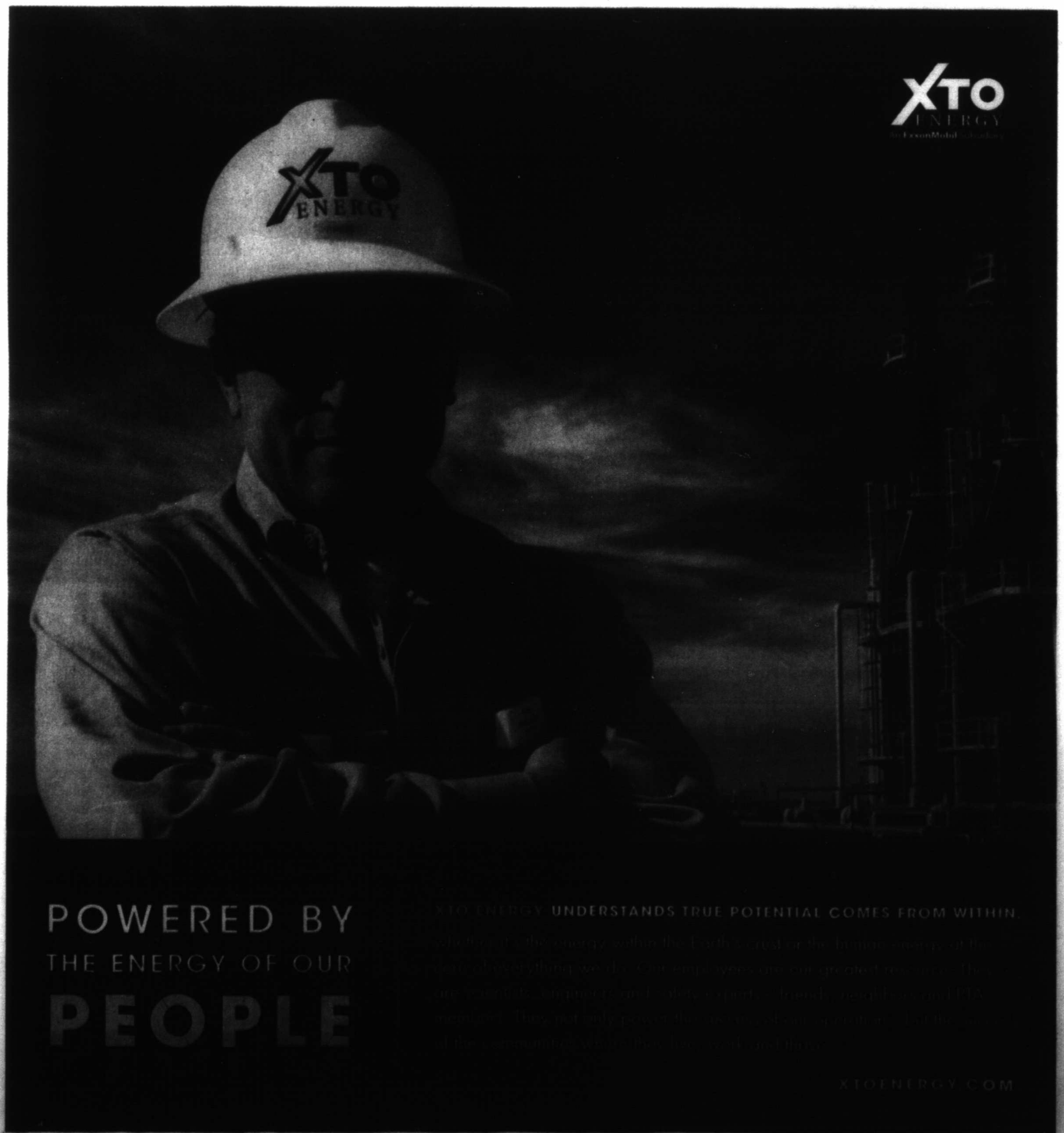
Colombians are obsessed with beauty, and pageants are a major draw across social classes. But unlike neighboring Venezuela, which has won seven Miss Universe titles, Colombians are accustomed to falling short of the crown, with five runner-up appearances since 1992 including Sunday's.

Before last year's crowning of Paulina Vega, only one other Colombian had won the Miss Universe title, in 1958.

In the aftermath of Sunday's shocking finale, Colombians were at a loss to explain the mistake. Newscasts devoted almost 20 minutes to dissecting every detail of the pageant's confusing end — from the tweets by a member of the jury celebrating Gutierrez's win to a front-row audience member's alleged slipping of a cue card to Harvey — as reporters looked for clues of what many Colombians believe was a scripted ending to rob their country of its rightful crown and produce higher TV ratings.

Some journalists blamed Donald Trump, saying they could find no financial record confirming that he had indeed sold the rights to the pageant as he said he did in September.

Many Colombians were outraged months ago when Trump on the campaign trail accused Mexico of sending rapists and drug traffickers to the U.S. On Sunday, some said they believed the Republican presidential candidate was somehow still pulling the strings to prevent another Latina from being crowned.



PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM PRESENT

Classroom Pioneers

CELEBRATING INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

Genevra Miller

FRESHMAN PRE-AP ENGLISH TEACHER AT EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

For Genevra Miller, teaching was always the one and only career path.

"I was raised by a father who was a band director and my mother read to me in the womb. Following in my dad's footsteps always seemed like the most natural career choice, and I loved literature before I could walk. I never seriously considered doing anything else. School has been my "happy place" my whole life," said Miller, who teaches freshman Pre-AP English at Early College High School @ Midland College.

Miller's class prepares her college-bound students for the rigors of college literacy.

"My hope is that many of my students will come back to Midland after they finish their degrees to contribute their talents to the well-being of this community," Miller said. "I love to see my former students succeed in their chosen fields. That's why I do this job; I want to help my students develop the tools they will need to be able to go out into the world as confident and successful adults."

Miller holds a bachelor's in English from the University of Texas at Austin and certifications in secondary English, secondary history composite, speech and ESL.

The Baytown native has 18 years of teaching experience and moved to Midland 14 years ago when she began working for Midland ISD.

Miller's husband, Clay, is an eighth-grade math teacher at Abell Junior High.

PHOTO BY JAMES DURBIN

Q&A with the Pioneer

How have you moved beyond the basic curriculum and found innovative ways to reach your students?

My goal is to help the kids see the connections. How is the poem connected to the short story, how is the short story connected to the novel, how does the novel connect back to the poem? And why are we bothering to write an essay about all three of them? I want them to see the bigger pictures in language arts, and in order to do that I have to get creative. Is a Metallica song the best way to help kids understand characterization in "The Odyssey?" Let's try it. Will a research article from UT focusing on the different types of marriage help the kids understand the conflicts in "Romeo and Juliet?" OK, let's read that, too. I love looking beyond the obvious; if you can surprise the students, you will have their attention. Getting their attention is step one. The freedom to be creative with the curriculum is one of my greatest joys.

How have you implemented technology into your classroom and instruction model?

My integration of technology has been gradual, a bit like the proverbial turtle who eventually wins the race. Any device with plugs scares me a little, so I tend to approach new opportunities to integrate technology with a touch of apprehension. English instruction in many ways is still text/paper/pen; however, I am deeply in love with a program called Edmodo, which the kids can access on nearly any device. It has a platform that is similar to Facebook, so the kids learn to use it in a manner of minutes. I can give the students online quizzes that are graded immediately (no more waiting for Mrs. Miller to read everything!), we can have online discussion forums; the possibilities are endless. I've enjoyed playing with this program over the past year.

What are your professional goals for the future?

My professional goal is singular; I want to stay in room 107 at ECHS@MC. I want to continue to help kids learn to communicate better. I want to continue to do my best to show students that literature can be as entertaining as Snapchat or the newest video game. I want to continue to hone my craft as the years pass. I have never heard the siren song of "bigger career goals"; I became a teacher to teach, and I still have time to shoot for perfection.

What is the greatest challenge to being an educator in Midland today?

As I see it, the biggest challenge facing educators in Midland is the same challenge educators all over America are dealing with. Our kids are easily distracted and they lack academic stamina. I don't say this to denigrate my students or to point a snooty finger at the world. It's simply the reality we face in 2015. Kids live in a world of instant intellectual gratification. Don't like what's on TV? Go look for something on YouTube. Want to finish your homework quickly? Just Google all the answers. Now outside of the classroom, this is great. Having all the information in the world at your fingertips is wonderful if you're bored and you want to read about the newest Kardashian scandal. However, in the classroom it is a different story. Kids get frustrated if they can't master a new concept immediately. My impression is that kids give up on themselves more quickly than they did back when I first started teaching. I don't think this is due to any particular weakness of character on their part; it's just a reaction to how they've been taught by the world to gather information. In-depth learning requires, in most cases, tedious repetition to achieve mastery, which is not how this generation has learned to interact with the world. Clearly, we aren't going to turn back the hands of time, so as a 21st century educator I have to develop teaching techniques that help me interact with the students effectively, given the learning tools they currently possess.

Not only does she touch kids academically, she reaches out to them to support them personally

A true pioneer in the classroom, Mrs. Miller is an original teacher here at ECHS and has helped pave the way for current and future students to achieve earning the 2 high school diploma at the same time as earning their associate degree. Mrs. Miller is always willing to learn and take risks to ensure student success. Students without fail come back and thank Mrs. Miller for being their teacher, holding them accountable and teaching them English and writing skills. From using technology with programs such as "Edmodo" to using quick writes in the classroom, students are engaged daily in literature and writing.

Not only does she touch kids academically, she reaches out to them to support them personally, always willing to mentor students (and) moving them to reach their goals.

She has a true heart for kids, caring for them where they are and where they are going — seeing potential in each one and helping them realize that potential.

She is a Pioneer in heart and spirit, a Pioneer for our kids.

—RENEE ALDRIN, EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL @ MIDLAND COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

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Nominate leading educators at mrt.com/classroompioneers. *Honorees may not be nominated by a family member.*

Obituaries

Donnie Swift

A Funeral Service for Donnie Swift has been scheduled for 10:00 AM, Wednesday, December 23, 2015 at Hayhurst Funeral Home Chapel in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Burial will follow at 2:30 PM at Mt. View Cemetery in Le Flore County, Oklahoma.

Donnie was born in Broken Bow, Oklahoma on Saturday, August 10, 1940, the son of Ewell and Letha (Story) Swift. He died in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma on Friday, December 18, 2015. He was 75 years of age.

Donnie was a 1957 graduate of Broken Bow High School in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. He attended Eastern State in Wilburton, Oklahoma for two years before transferring to Southeastern State in Durant, Oklahoma. He received Bachelors and Masters degrees in Education. He continued his education at Eastern University in New Mexico. He married the former Miss Violet Elder in Durant, Oklahoma on August 12, 1964. Donnie taught and was principal in Hobbs, New Mexico and Midland, Texas before retirement. He also coached 5th grade basketball. He enjoyed tennis and gardening. He loved watching Fox News. He was very involved in many churches over the years and served as a Deacon.

Donnie is survived by, his wife, Violet Swift, of Broken Arrow, OK; Sons, Casey Swift and wife Heidi, of Owasso, OK and Kevin Swift and wife Kacie of Broken Arrow, OK; Grandchildren, Connor, Courtney, Sydney, and Grayson; sister, Peggy Herring and husband Fairland of Branson, MO; brother, T.L. Swift and wife Loyce, Broken Bow, OK.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and brother, Gerald Swift.

James Guarino

James Edward Guarino, age 82,died after a brief illness at Midland Memorial Hospital on December 6, 2015.

He was born on April 15, 1933 in New York, he moved to various places like Maryland and Florida before settling in Midland,TX in 1978.

James worked as an electrical engineer and spent his later years working as a school crossing guard for the Midland Independent School District.

James was preceded in death by his wife, Justine Guarino.

A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday December 23, 2015 at 11:00 AM at Thomas Funeral Home.

Should friends or family desire, contributions may be sent to Hospice of Midland.

Thomas FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS / CREMATIONS
Midland, Texas

Jesse Hinojos, Jr.

Though God has already called me home, remember that you are not alone. So please don't linger in the dark, but keep the Light on in your heart.

On December 15, 2015, our beloved father was called home, he received his angel wings.

Jesus H. Hinojos Jr (Jesse) age 65 born June 15, 1950 to Aurora and Jesus Hinojos, Sr., in Presidio, Texas. At the age of 6 moved with his parents to Odessa, Texas where he attended school and graduated from Ector High School in 1969.

On June 4th 1969, he enlisted into the United States Marine Corps where he served 2 years during Vietnam. Upon his retirement from the Marine Corp, He started his career in the oil and gas industry.

Jesse worked for several different oil and gas companies within his 30 year career. At the time of his death he was employed with Maverick Well Pluggers, as shop manager.

Jesse married Delores Bustillos Hinojos on July 29th 1972. Within their marriage they had three children, two sons, and one daughter. Jesse loved to play golf with several of his brothers (in law), friends and his sons, Jeff and Eric. He enjoyed watching his grandsons, Ivan and Carl play football, both for Alamo Jr. High. Jesse always had an ear to listen and was never too busy to be a friend. He was a Dallas Cowboys fan, cheered Texas Longhorns but also supported the Texas A&M Aggies. There is so much more we can say about Jesse that it would take more than a few words to express. He was man of much wisdom and only a few words.

Jesse is preceded in death by his parents Aurora and Jesus Hinojos, Sr.; Uncle Ruben Hernandez; Brother-in-law, Angel Levario and many others.

He leaves to cherish his memories, his wife Delores B. Hinojos; sons, Jeffery Manuel Hinojos, Eric Christopher Hinojos; and daughter, Rebecca Andrea Hinojos Hickey, all of Midland Texas; his 5 grandchildren that he loved more than anything: Ivan, Audrey, Carl, Mykalah, and Jordan; his sisters, Irma Hinojos, Romelia Martinez, and Elva Hinojos, all of Odessa Texas; two aunts, Francis Hernandez, and Virginia Hernandez, both of Presidio, Texas; and many cousins, nephews, nieces, friends and all those who knew him.

With Jesse's unexpected departure we, his family thank everyone for their kindness and prayers. If any were missed, please accept our apologies.

A father, A light is from our household gone, A voice we loved is stilled, A place is vacant in our home, Which never can be filled. God gave us a beautiful father, A father who never grew old, You were always there with a helping hand, Help us now to accept his plan, We miss you now, our hearts are sore As time goes by, we miss you more. Your loving smile, your gentle face, No one can take our "Father's Place" May the choirs of angels receive you And may you have rest and peace everlasting.
Amen.

Funeral mass is set for Tuesday, December 22nd at 10:00 am at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery~ Pallbearers for the service will be Jamie Ortiz, Abel Rodriguez, Pete Ortiz, Robert Bustillos, Daniel Hinojos, Bobby Bustillos, Jessie Gonzales, and Nano Ruiz; Honorary Pallbearers are Jeffery Hinojos, Eric Hinojos, Ivan Hinojos, and Carl Hickey Jr.

Funeral service is under the direction of Heavenly Gate Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit our website at *lewallengarciapipkinfh.com*

Heavenly Gate
Funeral Home & Chapel
405 N. Terrell Midland, TX · (432) 687-1927

Lou Ann Lindley Bearden

Lou Ann Lindley Bearden passed away Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at the Hospice Inpatient Unit. She was born October 2, 1934 to Texas pioneer ranchers Frank and Eula (Pittman) Lindley in San Angelo, Texas. She was reared in Stiles, Big Lake, and Mertzon, Texas, where she graduated from high school in 1952 and then attended Texas State College for Women in Denton, Texas, and graduated from Sul Ross State College in Alpine, Texas in 1956 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education and Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio, Texas in 1966 with an Master's degree in Social Work.

She was a member of Kappa Delta Pi, American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the Greeley Senior Center. She worked for the Department of Welfare, Child Welfare Division in Midland, Texas.

Lou Ann was a member of the Methodist Church in Big Lake, Mertzon, and Midland, and a member of Christ Community Church in Greeley, Colorado.

She is survived by her son, Thomas Bearden of Greeley; daughter-in-law, Jacqueline Bearden; and by four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; son, Joe Lindley Bearden; daughter, Rae Ann Bearden; parents; and by four brothers and their wives.

Viewing will be held from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. with service following at 10:30 a.m. on Monday at the Adamson Chapel. A reception will follow in the Adamson Reception Center. Burial will take place in the Sherwood Cemetery in Irion County, Texas (date pending.) Memorial gifts may be made to the "West Texas Boys Ranch" in care of Adamson Funeral & Cremation; 2000 47th Ave., Greeley, CO 80634.

Condolences may be sent to the family at *adamsonchapels.com*.

Patsy Ainsworth Childress

Patsy Ainsworth Childress, 65, of Midland, passed away December 17, 2015 in Midland, Texas. She was born November 17, 1950 in Roscoe, Texas to Pat and Beverly Ainsworth.

She grew up in Snyder, Texas and graduated from Snyder High School. She then attended West Texas State University in Canyon, Texas where she fell in love with LeeRoy Childress. They married August 16, 1969 and shortly after settled in Midland.

In 1980, she went to work at what would become Christensen Interests and was there for 35 years. She had a great love for helping others serving as a Pink Lady at Midland Memorial Hospital.

She had a passion for cooking competition chili with CASI. Her loving and giving soul led her to her greatest impact in 2000 when she began Patsy's Cookoff. This event, which has continued strong for 15 years and touched so many lives, has raised almost $500,000 for Gifts of Hope in Midland.

Patsy is preceded in death by her parents, Pat and Beverly Ainsworth.

She is survived by her husband, LeeRoy Childress of Midland; son, Max Childress and wife Kiva Childress of San Angelo; son, Aaron Childress and wife Melanie Childress of Midland, grandchildren, Ryann, Zoe', Cameron, and Kyli; sister, Marsha Cribbs and husband Barry Cribbs of Snyder; sister, Roxanna Jones and husband Fred Jones of Abilene; and by 11 nieces and eight nephews.

Memorial services will be held Wednesday, December 23, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Memorial Christian Church, 1001 Andrews Hwy. Midland, Texas; following, a reception will be held at The American Legion at Midland Airpark.

Patsy's wishes were casual dress and donations to be made to Gifts of Hope, 2006 W. Tennessee Ave., Midland, TX 79701, in lieu of flowers.

Fly home with the angels! Your fight is done! We will see you again!

Funeral service is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to *pipkin@nts-online.net* or you can visit our website at *www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.*

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin
Funeral Home
2506 N. Big Spring · Midland, TX · (432) 682-3700

Death Notices

Ana Maria Rodriguez Barrera

Ana Maria Rodriguez Barrera, 66, of Midland, passed away Sunday, December 20, 2015.

Viewing will be held on Tuesday, December 22nd from 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Heavenly Gate Funeral Home Chapel. A prayer service will also be held on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at 7:00 pm at Heavenly Gate Funeral Home Chapel.

She is survived by one son, Juan Luis Olmos Rodriguez; two daughters, Iliana Vasquez and Elia Maria Olmos Rodriguez; 2 brothers and 3 sisters.

Barbara "Bobbie" Hale Blissard

Barbara "Bobbie" Hale Blissard, 77, of Big Spring, died Saturday, December 19, 2015. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

Survivors include one son, Michael Blissard; one daughter, Patsy Langdon; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and one sister.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at: *www.npwelch.com*

Jennifer Clarice Powers

Jennifer Clarice Powers, age 35, of Aztec, New Mexico, Formerly of Midland, Texas, died in an automobile accident, in Durango, Colorado, on Friday, December 11, 2015. Jennifer was born in Midland, Texas on December 7, 1980. A Memorial Service / Visitation will be held at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel on Wednesday, December 23, 2015 at 3:00 PM.

Zuma Turner Burrow Renaud

Zuma Turner Burrow Renaud, 93, of Midland, passed away December 20, 2015. Family will receive friends on Monday, December 28, 2015 from 5:00-7:00 pm with a Rosary to follow at 7:00 pm at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland, TX. A Funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, December 30, 2015 at 10:00 am at Holy Family Catholic Church in Ft. Worth, TX with burial to follow at Greenwood Cemetery in Ft. Worth, TX.

Survivors include children, Ellen, Bebe, Louis, David and Chris; 11 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at *www.npwelch.com.*

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

All Obituaries must be submited by 3:30 P.M. prior to next publication day.

OTHERDEATHS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

GEORGIA

28-year-old grandson of Jimmy Carter dies in Georgia

PEACHTREE CITY — Jeremy Carter, the grandson of former President Jimmy Carter, died near Atlanta. He was 28.

The cause of death was not yet known as of late Monday, Fayette County Coroner C.J. Mowell Jr. told The Associated Press.

Jimmy Carter announced the death Sunday to the congregation of his hometown church in Plains, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. Carter told parishioners his grandson hadn't been feeling well Saturday and went to take a nap at his family's home in Peachtree City before he died, the newspaper reported.

Mowell said he was notified of the death early Sunday.

The medical examiner's office of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation consulted with the Fayette County coroner's office and determined that an autopsy was not required, agency spokesman Scott Dutton said. Typically, the agency would do an autopsy if there was evidence of a crime.

Jeremy Carter is the son of Annette and Jeff Carter, who is Jimmy Carter's youngest son.

In 2005, Jeremy Carter, then 18, was sentenced to 30 days of house arrest, three years of probation and ordered to undergo drug counseling following his arrest in a Peachtree City home break-in.

Police said he was caught inside the home of a former friend taking a video game console. Authorities found less than an ounce of marijuana in a plastic bag in his shoe and smelled alcohol on his breath, The Associated Press reported at the time.

Carter had originally been charged with burglary, which could have resulted in a prison sentence, but that was reduced to a misdemeanor theft charge as the result of a plea agreement, the AP reported.

FORT WORTH

Ex-Texas lawmaker Harris, 67, dies at Fort Worth hospital

Former state Sen. Chris Harris has died at a Fort Worth hospital.

His law partner, Mansfield Mayor David Cook, says Harris died Saturday. He was 67.

Cook said Monday that Harris previously had heart and lung problems. He says Harris was not feeling well, was admitted to Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital on Dec. 14 and was being treated for an infection. Cook says the cause of death was congestive heart failure.

Harris served in the Texas House from 1985 to 1990. He was in the Texas Senate from 1991 to 2013. Harris served portions of Tarrant, Denton, Johnson, Parker and Dallas counties. He was Senate president pro tempore in 2001.

Cook says a funeral was planned at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Crossroads Christian Church in Grand Prairie.

ALABAMA

Services set for Judy Allison, wife of NASCAR driver

BESSEMER — The wife of retired NASCAR driver Bobby Allison is being remembered in a burial mass.

The service for 74-year-old Judy Allison was set for Monday at a Roman Catholic church in Bessemer near Birmingham.

An announcement by the family says Judy Allison died Friday after surgery at a hospital in Statesville, North Carolina. The cause of death wasn't included.

Judy and Bobby Allison moved to North Carolina from metro Birmingham following Allison's retirement from racing. Bobby Allison was a leading member of the so-called "Alabama Gang" from the 1960s through the '80s.

Judy Allison was also the mother of NASCAR racer Davey Allison, who died in a helicopter crash at the Talladega Superspeedway in 1993, and driver Clifford Allison, who died in a race in Michigan in 1992.

ATLANTA

Longtime civil rights activist Ozell Sutton dies at 90

Ozell Sutton, a longtime civil rights activist who was associated with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., has died, his daughter said Sunday. He was 90.

Alta Sutton told The Associated Press that her father died at Saint Joseph Hospital in Atlanta on Saturday. She said the family had celebrated his birthday nearly a week ago.

She said her father "went peacefully."

"He was a wonderful husband and father," she said. "They don't make daddies like him. He was a gem, a rare pearl. He was such a tremendous force. He lived a great life."

Ozell Sutton marched for equal rights alongside King in Selma, Alabama, in 1965 and was present at the Memphis hotel where King was assassinated in 1968.

In 2012, Ozell Sutton earned a Congressional Gold Medal as one of the first African-Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corp. He was also director of the U.S. Justice Department's Community Relations Service in Atlanta until he retired in 2003.

Ozell Sutton also served as the general president of the national service fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha. He worked for Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller and as the director of the Governor's Council on Human Resources. He was a journalist for the Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

NEW YORK

Tony-winning actress and TV soap star Patricia Elliott dies

Patricia Elliott, who won a Tony Award for her Broadway musical debut, went on to star opposite David Bowie in "The Elephant Man" and spent 23 years aboard the TV soap opera "One Life to Live," has died. She was 77.

Elliott died of cancer Sunday at her home in Manhattan, according to her niece, Sally Fay.

Elliott, who was born in Gunnison, Colorado, made her Broadway debut as Countess Charlotte Malcolm in the original production of Stephen Sondheim's "A Little Night Music" and won the Tony for best featured actress in 1973.

She also was nominated for a Tony in 1977 in the original production of "The Shadow Box." Her other Broadway credits include "A Doll's House," "A Month of Sundays" and "Hedda Gabler." For "The Elephant Man," she replaced Carole Shelley as Mrs. Kendal and her John Merricks included Philip Anglim and Bowie.

Elliott also played Renee Divine Buchanan on the ABC daytime drama "One Life to Live" from 1988 to 2011. In addition, she was on the "CBS Radio Mystery Theater" series from 1974 through 1982.

She graduated from the University of Colorado in 1960 and worked at the Cleveland Play House, the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis and Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., among others.

Elliott starred in "Hay Fever" at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles and played Regina Giddens in "The Little Foxes" at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia. She had guest roles on such TV shows as "Kojak," "St. Elsewhere" and "Hill Street Blues."

TODAY: Partly sunny High: 70 Low: 47

WEDNESDAY: Mostly sunny High: 68 Low: 43

THURSDAY: Mostly sunny High: 66 Low: 43

FRIDAY: Mostly sunny High: 70 Low: 40

SATURDAY: Rain High: 66 Low: 31

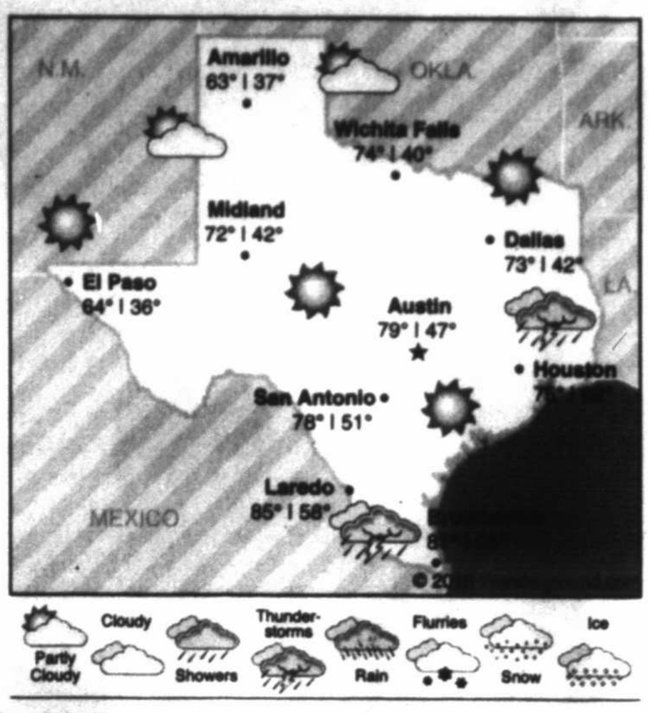
SUNDAY: Cloudy High: 39 Low: 29

Local forecast

Rain and snow are likely on Kwanzaa (Saturday), according to the National Weather Service. The temperatures will change from a high of 70 degrees on Christmas Day (Friday) to a low of below freezing on Saturday. There is even a chance of a low in the 20s Sunday night.

With a front moving in Saturday, a 26-degree change in the high temperature over a 24-hour period is not out of the question, according to the NWS.

The record high for Dec. 21 is 81 set in 1981 and 2010. The record low is 8 set in 1989. On Dec. 21 of last year, the high was 68 and the low was 40.

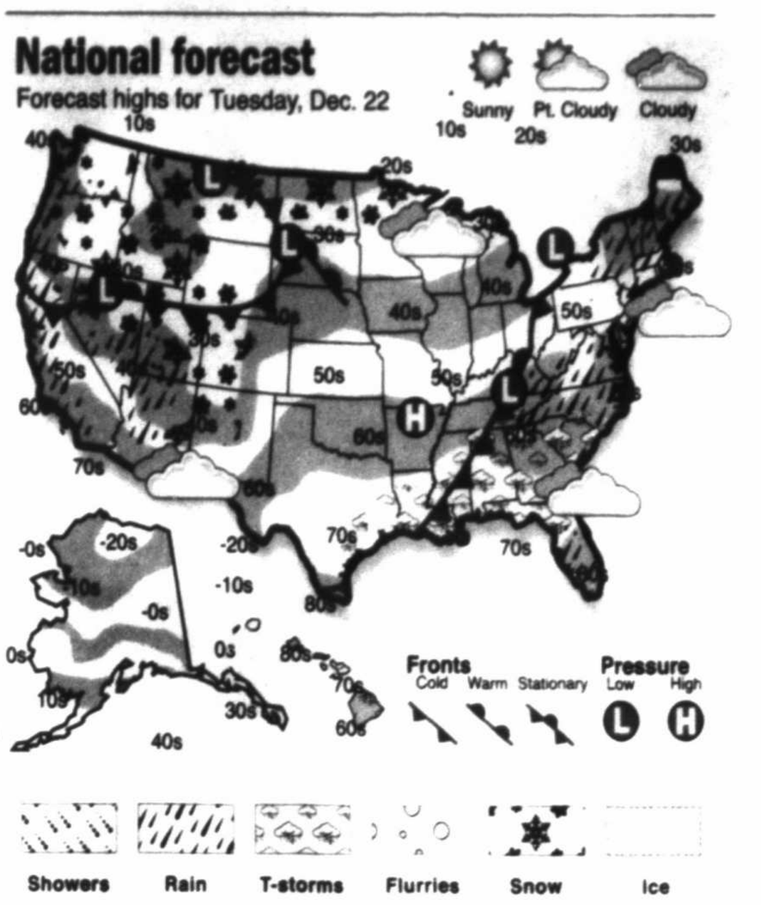


Precipitation

Sunday	0.00 in.
Monday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.16 in.
Year total	21.55 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.42 in.

Monday's temperatures

High	68
Low	33
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:45 a.m.
Sunset	5:49 p.m.



Weather brief

Tahoe-area resorts hopeful after early snowfall

RENO, Nev. — An abundance of early snow and cold temperatures that allowed extra snow-making have helped Tahoe resorts get off to a strong start this season.

Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe marketing manager Mike Pierce said higher-than-normal early snowfalls helped extend the skiing season.

Hospital visitors should practice simple courtesy

DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

DEAR ABBY: I have been a nurse for 35 years, and over time, I have noticed a decline in simple courtesy from people who visit friends or relatives in the hospital. Several things visitors should keep in mind:

1. If you don't know what room the patient has been assigned, ASK. Don't wander in and out of rooms until you find the right one.

2. Be prepared to give the first and last names of the patient when asking for directions.

3. Abide by the visiting hours and the number of persons allowed into a patient's room at one time. Remember, patients need dedicated time for treatments and procedures.

4. Do not bring small children to the hospital unless they are visiting their parent or sibling. You needlessly place them at risk by exposing them to infections.

5. Make sure any food you bring to the patient is allowed by the physician.

6. Never question the staff for information regarding the patient's diagnosis or condition. It is against the law for a health care provider to divulge patient information to an unauthorized individual. Ask the patient.

7. Get permission before plugging in your cellphone charger.

8. When taking the elevator, use public elevators. And when the doors open, stand back and allow the occupants to safely step out before entering. — PATIENT-CENTERED NURSE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR NURSE: If readers take to heart your suggestions in the spirit they were given, everyone will benefit. That visitors would charge into hospital elevators, wander the halls, barge into patients' rooms, and drag small children into sickrooms is an indication that there has been not only a decline in courtesy but also common sense.

Patients are in hospitals because they need intensive treatment and REST. Creating a party atmosphere in which the patient is expected to entertain numerous "guests" is physically and emotionally draining and a danger to the person's health.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband, "Charles," is dying, and we have decided to get remarried before he dies so he won't be alone at the end. (And also so I can receive his VA benefits when he's gone.) Is this morally wrong? I do take care of him, but not all the time because Charles likes living with his uncle and will remain there after we marry. I guess I just have a little guilt trip going on. — GUILT TRIP IN TEXAS

DEAR GUILT TRIP: Charles earned his benefits. I see nothing morally wrong with people providing for someone they care for after their death. Unless Charles was coerced into his generosity, I can't see why you should feel guilty.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 4
♡ 8 4
♢ K 8 6 5 3
♣ A Q 7 6

WEST
♠ K J 10 9 2
♡ K 9
♢ A J 10
♣ J 9 2

EAST
♠ Q 8 3
♡ A J 7 3 2
♢ 9 7 2
♣ 8 4

SOUTH
♠ A 6 5
♡ Q 10 6 5
♢ Q 4
♣ K 10 5 3

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	1♣	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	All pass		

Opening lead: Jack of ♣

Duplicate bridge is a game of small numbers. Should you achieve a score of -100, that will usually not be a success at rubber bridge, but it could be a top score at duplicate, where you would beat every pair that scored a larger minus. You would beat a pair that scored -110 just as soundly as a pair that had an accident and scored -800.

Many competitive tools have developed over time to help duplicate players fight this battle of small numbers. North's two no-trump bid was not a natural bid, offering to play in no-trump. It was a takeout bid showing two places to play. Not both minors, necessarily, but any two suits. South was expected to bid the lowest-ranking suit that he was able to play in. South's three-club bid found a home, but had North held hearts and diamonds, he would have converted the three-club bid to three diamonds and South would have chosen between the red suits.

There was no beating an East-West contract of two spades, so the three-club contract would have improved the result for North-South even if it failed. South, in fact, made three clubs. He won the opening spade lead with his ace and led the queen of diamonds. West won and reverted to spades. South ruffed the third round of spades, then led the king of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. The friendly splits in both minors saw him through to nine tricks. A well-earned good score!

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015:

This year you will greet some positive changes in your life. You'll need to learn to look at the big picture more often. Your ability to learn comes out as you adapt to new ideas, cultures and perhaps new developments in your chosen field. If you are single, you might connect with someone who is very different from the type of suitor you have chosen in the past. This experience will be a real eye-opener for you. If you are attached, you find that more acceptance and trust builds between the two of you. Your in-laws could play a significant role in your life. GEMINI might wear you down with his or her constant chatter.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You have an unusually grounded way of handling a parent. You know how to tell this person to chill out. Your efforts play a bigger role in others' lives than you realize. A partner could become timid. Try not to fall victim to the pressure of the holidays. Tonight: Hang in there.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ You will draw someone in a lot closer than you'd thought possible. Your imagination will provide you with ideas for last-minute gifts. Remember, what pleases you might not please someone else. Walk in each person's shoes. Tonight: Forget tomorrow and find the mistletoe.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★ You might be slow to get started, but you'll be a force to be dealt with once you get moving. You are able to make a big difference in a partner's life just by offering a helping hand. Your creativity soars, and you'll manage to achieve what you desire. Tonight: You make the call.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Allow others to demonstrate how much they care by letting them do what they want to do. You like to take control of holiday events, especially if they are at your home or involve cooking. However, let someone else take over this year. Tonight: Play it low-key.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Take care of your responsibilities first. Some of you might choose to visit with a friend who lives out of town but is around for the holidays. You could be overwhelmed — not by what you have to do, but by what you want to do! Prioritize! Tonight: Where you want to be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Make calls and check your email once more before making plans. You could be taken aback by everything you want to get done. Take responsibility for making your schedule work. Clear out as much as you can before you go to holiday happenings. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Deal with a friend or loved one on a one-on-one level, especially if you see a misunderstanding brewing. Try to clear up a problem quickly. Make plans that involve someone at a distance, or go listen to some holiday music. Tonight: Favorite place, favorite people.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Defer to a loved one who seems to be able to accomplish much more than you can. You might feel as if you are leaning heavily on this person. Nearly everyone you know wants some time with you. Allow yourself to be flattered. Tonight: You will be happier if you're not around crowds.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ Handle what is happening in a matter-of-fact kind of way. Relax, and you will be much more productive. You could be delighted by a call or an unexpected visit. A friend might drive a hard bargain, but he or she just wants to be with you. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ A situation with a loved one will change. Do not interfere with this person's natural flow. Focus on a last-minute project and perhaps some calls that need to be returned. You could be surprised by what comes down the path. Tonight: Do not push yourself too hard.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Try not to dig in your heels over a problematic matter; otherwise, you might have to backtrack later and revoke a statement. A child or new friend seems to want to spend time with you. Balancing everything that is happening will take some skill. Tonight: Get into the holiday spirit.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Return calls and keep to your schedule. Do what you need to do, and curb socializing. You won't want to promise to get together with someone only to cancel later. Keep your plans as loose and easy as possible until you have a better sense of time. Tonight: Invite a friend over.

BORN TODAY

Journalist Diane Sawyer (1945), U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz (1970), actor Kiefer Sutherland (1966)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Workers who cross picket lines
6 Stare in disbelief
10 Con game
14 Kept from squeaking
15 "Yikes!"
16 Thomas __ Edison
17 "Calm down"
19 Salacious look
20 Bar in a bathtub
21 Pint or pixel
22 Former Russian rulers
23 BBC nature series with the episodes "Jungles" and "Mountains"
25 Starter's gun
29 CVS pickups
30 Inventor Howe
31 Ark measurement
34 "Dexter" network, briefly
37 Adorable
40 Chatter
41 Greek sandwiches
42 Not throw out
43 Rapper Dr. __
44 Riviera film festival site
45 Delayed flight, e.g.
51 Dropped the ball
52 "You're __ 30 seconds!", backstage warning
53 Prefix with space
57 Trim, as a photo
58 Warm cuptul ... and, literally, what's hidden in the answers to 17-, 23-, 37- and 45-Across
60 Optimism
61 Ancient France
62 Film critic, at times
63 Pitcher with a flared spout
64 This, to Esteban
65 Thin nails

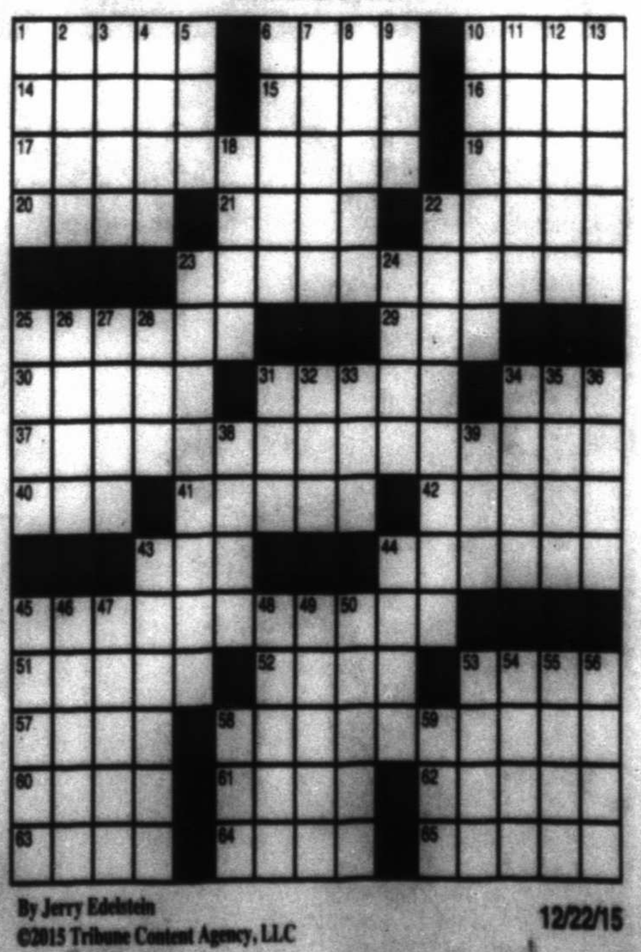
DOWN

1 They're way more than social drinkers
2 "Later, darling!"
3 __-Seltzer
4 Driver's warning
5 1980s missile prug.
6 Davis of "Commander in Chief"
7 Another time
8 Something to stick with?
9 Ice cream maker Joseph
10 Dips for tortilla chips
11 Simple to understand
12 Sidestep
13 Bog
18 Rock's Jethro __
22 Relating to roughness or smoothness, say
23 Ph.D. candidate, e.g.
24 Chicago daily, familiarly
25 Austin __: Tennessee university
26 Ingrid's role in "Casablanca"
27 Under the weather
28 Letter after sigma
31 Sleeping or slot follower
32 GI show sponsor
33 __-relief
34 Shock
35 Garden spigot attachment
36 Change for a five
38 Spyglass user
39 Five-and-__ store
43 Not as simple to understand
44 "__ Buy Me Love": Beatles hit
45 Café lightener
46 Traffic light symbol
47 Figure of speech
48 Bouquet for a señorita
49 Computer fodder
50 String quartet instrument
53 Many miles away
54 "At Last" singer James
55 Lakeside stalk
56 Rowboat pair
58 Birthday number
59 Eye, poetically

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	A	N	T	A		M	O	L	T		F	I	J	I
A	W	H	I	T		E	M	I	R		I	C	A	N
L	L	A	M	A		O	N	E	A		R	E	C	T
			B	L	O	W	I	N	G	S	M	O	K	E
P	E	T	R	O	L		S	I	M		V	I	A	
L	O	N	E	W	O	L	F		C	A	R	E	E	R
O	N	T		R	I	I	S		Z	E	R	O	S	
			O	L	D	F	L	A	M	E	S			
C	A	R	B	O		E	C	R	U			I	A	N
A	W	E	I	G	H		H	A	N	G	O	N	T	O
B	A	S		O	U	I			D	A	N	C	E	D
F	R	I	E	N	D	L	Y	F	I	R	E			
A	D	D	S		D	I	A	L		L	I	L	A	C
R	E	U	P		L	E	N	O		I	L	O	S	T
E	D	E	N		E	D	G	E		C	L	A	U	S

xwordeditor@aol.com 12/22/15



By Jerry Edelstein
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12/22/15

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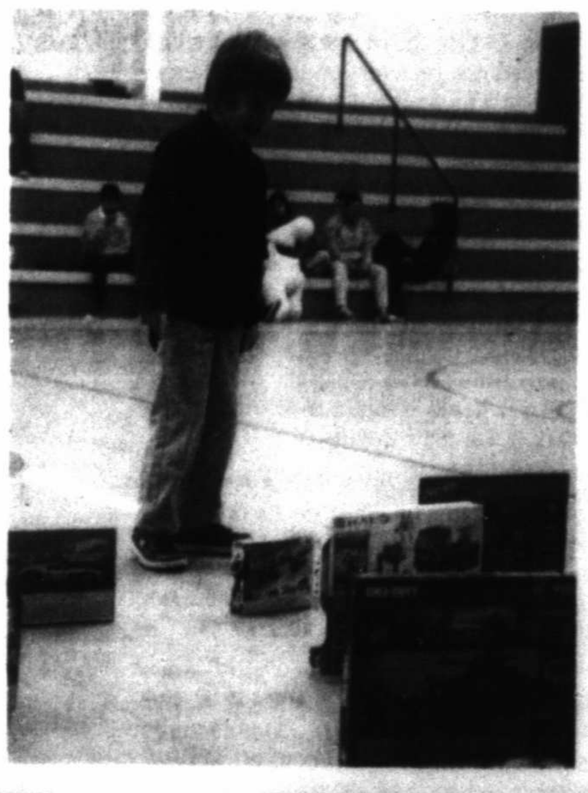
GIRLS & BOYS GET FREE TOYS

Children at the Boys & Girls Club pick out presents Dec. 15 during the annual Christmas party. This year's event was sponsored by Pioneer Natural Resources.

TIM FISCHER | REPORTER-TELEGRAM



Texans' QB situation uncertain because of injuries

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Brandon Weeden could start for the Houston Texans on Sunday against Tennessee as they try to clinch the AFC South title.

Houston is down to Weeden, the third-string quarterback, because T.J. Yates suffered a season-ending torn ACL on Sunday and Brian Hoyer remains in the concussion protocol.

Hoyer suffered his second concussion in less than a month on Dec. 13 and must be cleared by an independent neurologist before he can return.

Coach Bill O'Brien wasn't sure of Hoyer's chances of playing on Sunday.

"I think it has more to do with how the independent doctors evaluate him and how our training staff works with them as far as the evaluation," O'Brien said. "I think we'll know something better after probably (Tuesday)."

Weeden, who was signed by the Texans on Nov. 19, took over on Sunday after Yates was injured and helped Houston to its first win in Indianapolis, making him the fourth quarterback to get a victory for the Texans this season. The Texans need a win over the Titans and a loss by the Colts at Miami on Sunday to win the division.

Houston placed Yates on injured reserve on Monday and signed B.J. Daniels from Seattle's practice squad to take his spot on the roster. Daniels was a quarterback in college at South Florida, but has played both quarterback and receiver in the NFL.

"We're going to train him to play quarterback, but we're also going to do some things with him as a receiver," O'Brien said. "We're not going to try to put too much on his plate. It'd be more like packages and then we'll see how it goes throughout the week whether he's up for the game day (but) a lot of that has to do with Brian."

Weeden was 11 of 18 for 105 yards and a touchdown in his first appearance for the Texans. He played four games with three starts for the Cowboys early this season and was released by Dallas when Tony Romo returned from his first injury this season.

Because he was the third string quarterback until last week when Hoyer was out, Weeden had almost no experience working with Houston's first-team offense.

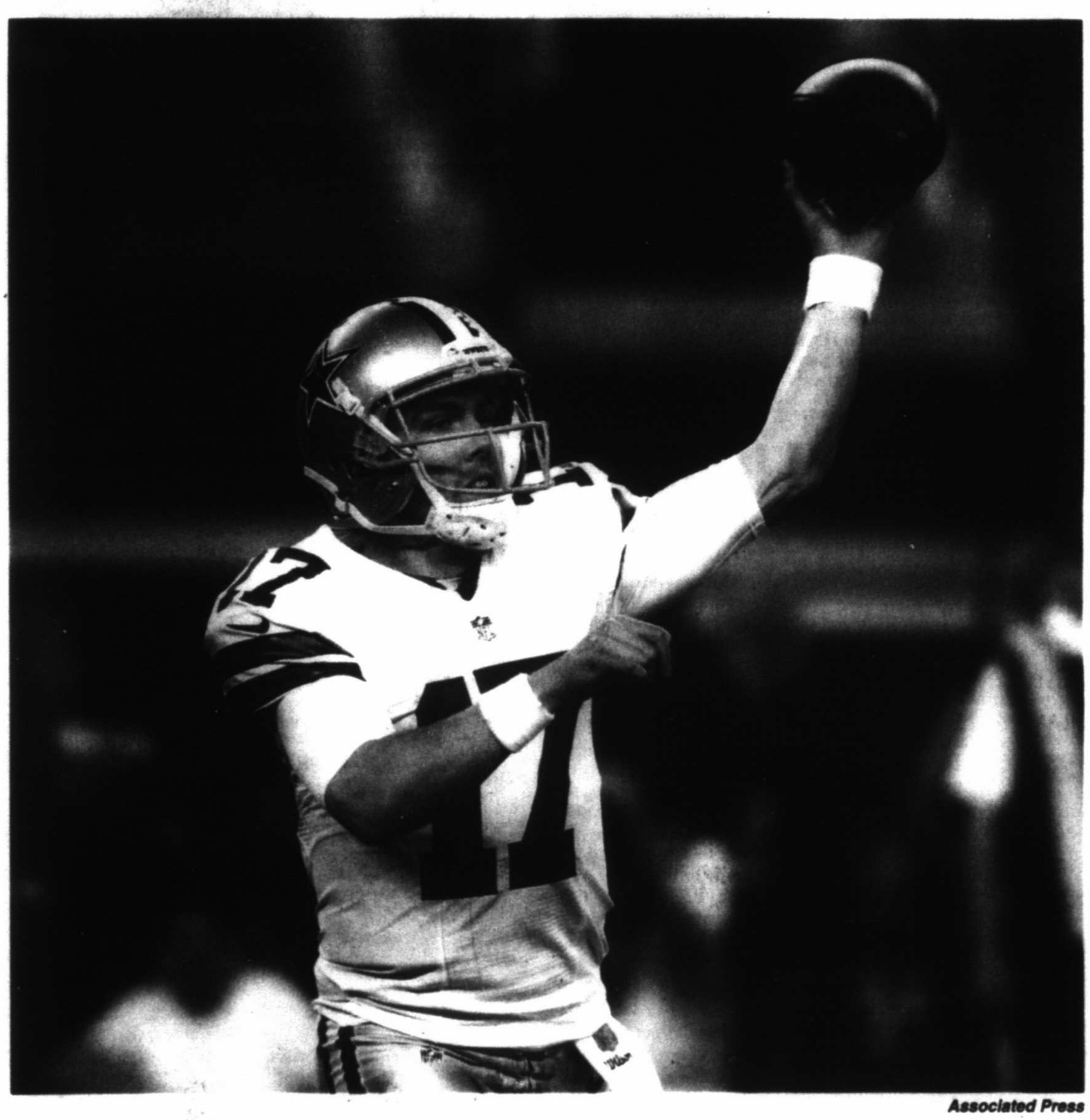
"My confidence and my timing is just not what it needs to be," Weeden said. "That is kind of to be expected. I haven't thrown any of those routes to any of those guys, so that just comes with time.

"I thought as the game went on the communication got better. I think I settled down and started really communicating and getting guys lined up. There is a couple of throws I would like to have back, but like I said, just uncertainty of timing and just getting a better feel for it."

O'Brien said that things were probably more difficult for Weeden on Sunday because he had to orchestrate a game plan that was made for Yates. That will be different this week if Hoyer is out again.

"Now we can probably do some things that, if he is the guy, that are more to his skillset, tailored more to him," O'Brien said.

On to the next starter



Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Kellen Moore throws a pass in the first half of a game against the New York Jets on Saturday in Arlington.

Moore set to be 4th QB for Cowboys this season

By Schulyer Dixon
Associated Press

IRVING — Kellen Moore will be the fourth starting quarterback for Dallas this season at Buffalo on Sunday.

As for whether he will back up Tony Romo next year, coach Jason Garrett isn't interested in talking about auditions even though the Cowboys (4-10) are eliminated from the playoffs with two games to go, as are the Bills (6-8).

"A lot of people will start pointing that way that this is a great opportunity to evaluate players in regular-season games," Garrett said Monday. "That's not really the way we think. We have one objective going to Buffalo, and that's winning a ballgame."

Making his first regular-season appearance late in his fourth year in the NFL, Moore sparked the offense after replacing an ineffective Matt Cassel in the second quarter of a 19-16 loss to the New York Jets on Saturday.

Romo missed seven games with a broken left collarbone and was lost for the season after breaking it again in his second game back. Cassel was 1-6 filling in for Romo after Brandon Weeden went 0-3 following the first injury.

Although he threw an interception on his second career pass and three for the game, Moore beat a blitz with a quick toss to Dez Bryant in the flat, letting the receiver get around cornerback Darrelle Revis for the 10-yard touchdown.

Moore also led a drive to a tying field goal in the final two minutes before the Jets drove the other way for the winning points.

"Obviously I took this opportunity for what it was," Moore said after going 15 of 25 for 158 yards. "We'll grow from it and learn from it and see what happens."

An undrafted free agent out of Boise State, Moore signed with Detroit in 2012 and spent two seasons there with Cowboys offensive coordinator Scott Linehan.

Moore joined the Dallas practice squad in September, before Romo got hurt, and was moved to the active roster after the injury.

He backed up Weeden for two games while Cassel was learning the offense following the trade that brought him from Buffalo, then was inactive for four

Please see COWBOYS/2C

SMU's Brown set for return after 9-game suspension

By Schulyer Dixon
Associated Press

DALLAS — Upon his return from a nine-game suspension, Larry Brown mostly just wanted his SMU players to know how proud he was of them for going undefeated without him even though they have no chance to play in the postseason because of NCAA penalties.

"And then I told them I didn't want to screw them up," Brown said Monday, a day before the Hall of Fame coach returns to the bench against Kent State at the Las Vegas Classic.

The coach-in-waiting plan the Mustangs openly acknowledged when they hired Brown in 2012 got a little test run, and associate head coach Tim Jankovich has a spiffy stat line if the day comes when he replaces one of his mentors at the campus a few minutes north of downtown Dallas.

Meantime, the 75-year-old Brown is back — and was so ready for his return he visited the locker room minutes after watching the final game of his exile in his office with his son and daughter, both SMU students.

"I didn't realize 33 days went so slowly," said Brown, who led the Mustangs to their first NCAA Tournament since 1993 last season. "But it's over."

Brown was suspended and SMU banned from postseason play after a September report when the NCAA ruled that a former men's basketball administrative assistant completed online course work for a student to meet eligibility requirements.

Under Jankovich, the Mustangs rose to No. 18 — where they were ranked for the second straight week Monday — with a schedule of mostly overmatched opponents.

Brown said he took advantage of the rare in-season chance to spend time with family, including his grandchildren, and was "all over the place" when finding somewhere to watch the Mustangs. He watched other games as well.

Now last season's American Athletic Conference champions are closing in on league play with no chance to defend their league tournament title, although they are eligible to win another regular-season crown.

SMU also won't get to erase the memory of losing its first NCAA Tournament game in 22 years on a hotly debated goaltending call in the final seconds.

Leonard, Spurs win 6th in a row, 106-92 over Pacers

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Kawhi Leonard had 24 points and the San Antonio Spurs surged past the Indiana Pacers for a 106-92 victory Monday night to remain undefeated at home.

San Antonio (24-5) is off to the second best start in franchise history, including 16-0 at home. The Spurs have 21 wins by double figures.

Tony Parker had 15 points, including nine in the final quarter, for San Antonio, which has won 6 straight. Boris Diaw added 14 points and LaMarcus Aldridge and Patty Mills had 10 each.

David West had seven points and five rebounds in his first game against the Pacers since leaving in the offseason to sign with the Spurs.

George Hill and Jordan Hill each had 15 points for Indiana.

Two of the league's top defenses fought early. The Spurs lead the league in opponent scoring at 88.9 points and the Pacers are seventh at 92.7.

San Antonio had just six points in the first six minutes of the game, two fewer than Indiana.

Leonard and Paul George had their own physical battle, with each trying to get the best of the other on both ends of the court.

With George bumping and hand checking him at the top of the key, Leonard drove to the lane and banked in an over-the-shoulder left-handed layup in traffic. George attempted to respond, but Tim Duncan blocked his driving layup on the ensuing possession.

The back-to-back plays electrified the crowd and the Spurs, who scored nine of the next 11 points for a 70-62 lead. Leonard had five points, a rebound and a steal in the run.

Tip-Ins

Pacers: George Hill, who was with the Spurs from 2008-11, received a loud ovation during pregame introduction. Hill was traded to the Pacers for the rights to Leonard. ... George had two steals, giving him 512 for his career to tie Derrick McKey for eighth in franchise history. ... Indiana was shooting 38.6 percent from three-point range, which is second best in the league. ... Rodney Stuckey has scored in double figures in seven straight games after posting 16 against the Spurs.

Spurs: San Antonio is off to the second-best start in franchise history, trailing only the 25-4 record in 2011. ... Texas men's basketball coach Shaka Smart was in attendance, seated next to Spurs general manager R.C. Buford.

Associated Press

San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard dunks during the first half against the Indiana Pacers on Monday in San Antonio.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl: Utah State vs. Akron, 2:30 p.m., ESPN

Boca Raton Bowl: Toledo vs. Temple, 6 p.m., ESPN

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Auburn vs. New Mexico, 1:30 p.m., ESPNU

Stephen F. Austin at Arizona State, 2 p.m., P12, P12 AZ

Arkansas Little-Rock at Texas Tech, 2 p.m., FSSW/FCSC

Troy at Ole Miss, 3 p.m., SEC

BYU vs. Harvard, 3:30 p.m., ESPNU

Miami (Fla.) at La Salle, 4 p.m., CBSSN

Clemson at Georgia, 5 p.m., SEC

Kennesaw State at Indiana, 5 p.m., BTN

USF at Seton Hall, 5:30 p.m., FS2

Iowa State at Cincinnati, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Michigan State vs. Oakland, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Delaware at Villanova, 6 p.m., FS1

Georgetown at Charlotte, 6 p.m., CBSSN

American at LSU, 7 p.m., SEC

Vanderbilt at Purdue, 7 p.m., BTN

Detroit at Western Kentucky, 7 p.m., FCSA

Southern Utah at Butler, 7:30 p.m., FS2

California at Virginia, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Mercer at Ohio State, 8 p.m., ESPN2

George Washington at DePaul, 8 p.m., FS1

St. John's vs. South Carolina, 8 p.m., CBSSN

Long Beach State at Arizona, 8 p.m., P12, P12 AZ

Delaware State at Utah, 8 p.m., P12 Mtn

Oklahoma vs. Washington State, 10 p.m., ESPNU

Kansas at San Diego State, 10 p.m., CBSSN

McNeese State at UCLA, 10 p.m., P12, P12 LA

Seattle at Washington, 10 p.m., P12 WA

Northern Iowa vs. Hawaii, 12 a.m., ESPNU

NBA

Dallas at Toronto, 6:30 p.m., FSSW

NHL

Montreal at Minnesota, 7 p.m., NBCSN

Chicago at Dallas, 8:30 p.m., FSSW+

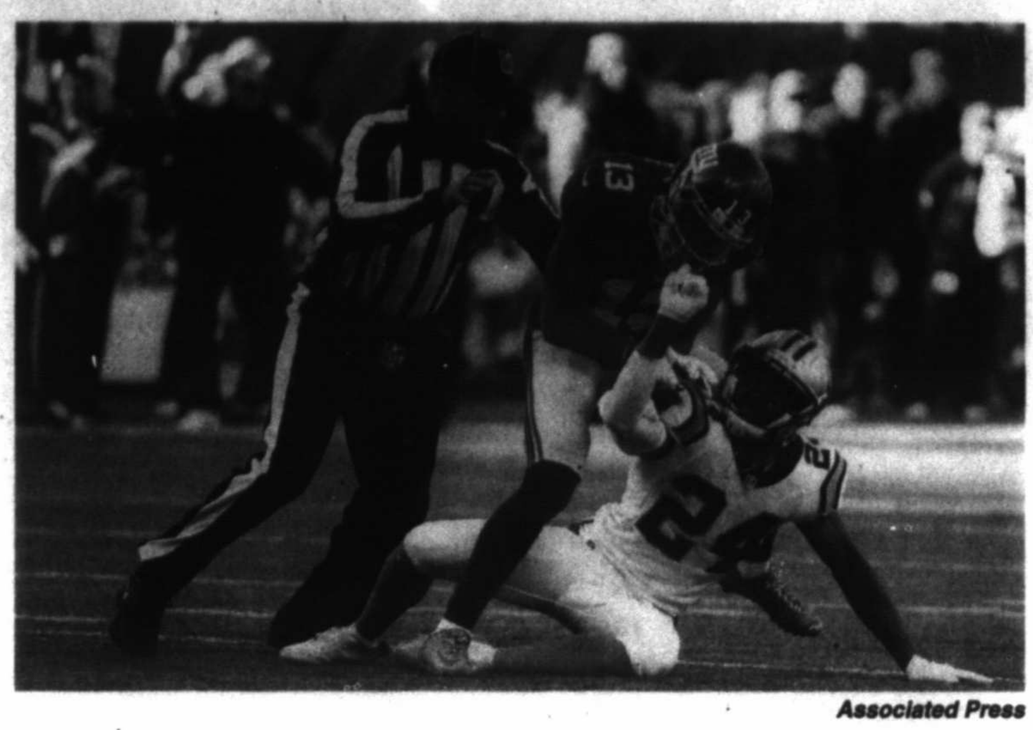
San Jose at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m., NBCSN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Arkansas-Little Rock at Texas A&M, Noon, SEC

NFL suspends Giants WR Beckham

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press



Associated Press

A referee, left, separates New York Giants wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. and the Carolina Panthers' Josh Norman during the first half of a game Sunday in East Rutherford, N.J.

NEW YORK — Losing control during Sunday's loss to the Panthers will cost Giants star receiver Odell Beckham Jr. one game.

The NFL on Monday suspended Beckham for next weekend's visit to Minnesota for his conduct against Carolina, when he drew three personal foul penalties. The league cited "multiple violations of safety-related playing rules."

Beckham appealed the decision. His case will be heard by either James Thrash or Derrick Brooks, the hearing officers jointly appointed by the NFL and the players' union.

Without Beckham, the Giants (6-8) would be missing their best offensive weapon as they try to stay alive in the NFC East race.

Beckham and Panthers cornerback Josh Norman tangled from the beginning of the Panthers' 38-35 victory. At one point, Beckham delivered a diving helmet-to-helmet hit on Norman while blocking.

There was plenty of pushing, shoving, swinging, wrestling, late hits and trash talking between them.

Beckham, the 2014 Offensive Rookie of the Year, has 91 catches for 1,396 yards and 13 touchdowns, tied for the league lead. He has a base salary of $893,000 and would lose $55,813 for being suspended for Sunday night's game.

The suspension was imposed by NFL Vice President of Football Operations Merton Hanks, who ruled that Beckham's actions placed his opponents at unnecessary risk of injury and should have been avoided.

"At numerous times during (Sunday's) game against the Carolina Panthers, your actions placed a fellow player at unnecessary risk . and clearly did not represent the high standards of sportsmanship expected," Hanks said in a letter to Beckham.

Hanks specifically pointed to a late helmet-to-helmet hit against a defenseless player in which Beckham left his feet prior to contact to spring forward and upward into his opponent (Norman); lowered his helmet and initiated forcible contact with his helmet; and forcibly struck the defenseless player's head.

This "blindside block" was particularly flagrant because Beckham, with a 10-yard running start, had an unobstructed path to his opponent, the position of the opponent was not impacted by any other player, and the contact with the head/neck was avoidable, the NFL's statement said.

The conduct of other players in the game is being reviewed by the NFL for potential fines.

If the suspension is upheld, Beckham would not be permitted this week to be at the Giants' practice facility. He would be barred from team meetings, attending or watching practices; attending Sunday's game; or having contact with any club personnel except to arrange off-site medical treatment or rehabilitation.

He would be reinstated next Monday.

After Sunday's game, Beckham refused to discuss his run-ins with Norman. There was no media availability with Beckham on Monday.

Asked about the personal fouls, he said Sunday, "You never want to hurt your team like that. I have learned it all throughout my life you know, always second man gets called, always that it is just unfortunate. You go back and watch the film tomorrow and you learn from it."

Norman was infuriated by the helmet-to-helmet hit and called for the league to look at Beckham's play.

"He was 15 yards down the field and went straight for my head. It was just crazy, man," Norman said.

"He's got the maturity of a little kid," Norman added of Beckham, who finished with six catches for 72 yards and a touchdown and also dropped a sure TD pass in the first quarter.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with LHP Tom Gorzelanny and LHP Joe Thatcher on minor league contracts.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Named Tyrus Bowman, Amanda Hopkins, Jackson Laumann, Taylor Tarrasas, Stephen Trombley and Rosa Vecchio area scouts. Promoted area scouts Ben Collman, Chris Peiskoudas and Mike Moriarty to regional supervisory scouting positions.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP A.J. Griffin on a minor league contract.

National League

COLORADO ROCKIES — Agreed to terms with RHP Adam Ottavino on a three-year contract.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Named Bill Haseleman manager of Oklahoma City (PCL). Ryan Garbo manager of Tulsa (Texas). Drew Saylor manager of Rancho Cucamonga (Cal). Gil Velazquez of Great Lakes (MWL). Shaun Larkin manager of Ogden (Pioneer) and John Shoemaker manager of the Arizona League Dodgers.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Acquired LHP Kyle Lobstein from Detroit for cash considerations.

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Agreed to terms with LHP Buddy Baumann on a one-year contract. Designated C Josmil Pinto for assignment.

Frontier League

FLORENCE FREEDOM — Signed RHP Cody Gray, OF Josh Henderson, LHP Pat McGrath and LHP Zach Wendorf to contract extensions. Signed 1B William Beckwith, RHP Kaddidy Gaines, 1B Eric Kalbfleisch, 1B Zach Mathieu and catcher Matt Rubino.

LAKE ERIE CRUSHERS — Signed RHP Fernando Gallegos and OF Connor Oliver.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS — Sold the contract of RHP Adam Lopez to San Diego (NL).

FOOTBALL

National Football League

NFL — Suspended New York Giants WR Odell Beckham Jr. one game for his conduct during a Dec. 28 game against Carolina.

ATLANTA FALCONS — Reached an injury settlement with G Jon Asamoah.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Activated TE Andrew Quarless from injured reserve-return. Placed WR Ty Montgomery on injured reserve.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Placed WR Griff Whalen and DT Billy Winn on injured reserve. Waived RB Zurlon Tipton. Signed DE Earl Okine and DT Kelcy Quarles from the practice squad and RB Trey Williams from Miami's practice squad.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — S Charles Woodson announced his retirement, effective at the end of this season.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Placed WR Andre Roberts on injured reserve. Signed WR Colin Lockett to the practice squad. Placed TE Ray Hamilton on the practice squad injured list.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NHL — Suspended Boston F Max Talbot two games for interference against New Jersey F Jiri Tlusty during a Dec. 20 game.

CAROLINA HURRICANES — Recalled D Michal Jordan from Charlotte (AHL).

MINNESOTA WILD — Signed D Jared Spurgeon to a four-year contract extension.

American Hockey League

AHL — Suspended Binghamton D Mark Fraser two games for his actions during an altercation in a Dec. 18 game at Syracuse and Rockford C Marko Dano one game for slew-footing in a Dec. 19 game at Chicago.

CHARLOTTE CHECKERS — Released F Grayson Bowman from his professional tryout contract.

SAN ANTONIO RAMPAGE — Signed F Nick Drazenovic to a professional tryout contract.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

NEW YORK RED BULLS — Signed M Derrick Etienne and F Brandon Allen.

SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC — Signed F Andy Craven and G Tyler Miller to one-year contracts.

North American Soccer League

JACKSONVILLE ARMADA FC — Signed M Pekka Lagerblom.

MIAMI FC — Signed F Dario Cvitanich.

COLLEGE

ARIZONA — Announced cornerbacks coach David Lockwood will not return next season. Promoted football analyst Jahmile Addae to cornerbacks coach.

AUSTIN PEAY — Named Will Healy football coach.

DENVER — Announced the resignation of director of intercollegiate athletics and recreation services Eric Ziady, effective Dec. 31.

FLORIDA — Announced RB Kelvin Taylor, WR Demarcus Robinson and DE Alex McCalister will enter the NFL draft.

GEORGIA — Suspended LB Tim Kimbrough for the TaxSlayer Bowl.

MICHIGAN — Named Don Brown defensive coordinator.

SOUTH FLORIDA — Signed football coach Willie Taggart to a three-year extension through 2020.

TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE — Announced the retirement of men's and women's golf coach Louie Bledsoe.

Stafford leads Lions past Saints, 35-27

By Brett Martel
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Matthew Stafford passed for 254 yards and three touchdowns, and the Detroit Lions held off a late surge by New Orleans to defeat the Saints 35-27 on Monday night.

Detroit (5-9) raced to a 28-3 lead, but Drew Brees threw a pair of touchdown passes — one shortly after a Lions fumble — to help New Orleans (5-9) pull to 28-20 with about 10 minutes left.

Brees passed for 341 yards and three touchdowns, becoming only the fourth quarterback to surpass 60,000 yards in a career while also eclipsing the 4,000-yard mark for the 10th straight season.

But New Orleans' loss guaranteed consecutive losing seasons for the first time since Sean Payton became coach in 2006.

Golden Tate caught two touchdown passes for Detroit. The Lions' last-ranked running game accounted for 150 yards and two TDs against New Orleans' last-ranked run defense.

MONDAY'S BOX
LIONS 35, SAINTS 27

Detroit	7	14	7	7	—35
New Orleans	3	0	7	17	—27

First Quarter

Det—Tate 1 pass from Stafford (Prater kick), 7:51.

NO—FG Forbath 45, 1:06.

Second Quarter

Det—Burton 4 pass from Stafford (Prater kick), 14:12.

Det—Tate 5 pass from Stafford (Prater kick), 4:27.

Third Quarter

Det—Abdullah 15 run (Prater kick), 11:50.

NO—Cooks 27 pass from Brees (Forbath kick), 5:03.

Fourth Quarter

NO—FG Forbath 22, 13:01.

NO—Colston 11 pass from Brees (Forbath kick), 10:06.

Det—Bell 1 run (Prater kick), 5:24.

NO—Watson 1 pass from Brees (Forbath kick), 1:55.

A—73,017.

	Det	NO
First downs	24	27
Total Net Yards	398	399
Rushes-yards	23-150	18-69
Passing	246	330
Comp-Att-Int	22-25-0	34-52-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-8	1-11
Punts	3-44.3	4-43.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-0
Penalties-Yards	10-82	6-28
Time of Possession	29:36	30:24

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Detroit, Abdullah 9-77, Bell 8-71, Riddick 2-3, Stafford 4-(minus 1). New Orleans, Hightower 13-54, Brees 1-11, Spiller 2-2, Hunter 1-2, Hoomanawanui 1-0.

PASSING—Detroit, Stafford 22-25-0-254. New Orleans, Brees 34-52-0-341.

RECEIVING—Detroit, Tate 6-45, Ebron 4-79, Bell 2-30, Riddick 2-27, T.Jones 2-22, Abdullah 2-12, Burton 2-10, C.Johnson 1-18, Moore 1-10. New Orleans, Cooks 10-124, Snead 10-76, Watson 6-49, Hightower 3-31, Colston 2-39, Spiller 2-16, Johnson 1-8.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Detroit, Prater 38 (WR).

COWBOYS

From 1C

games before going back to the practice squad.

When Romo went down again on Thanksgiving against Carolina, Moore was the backup again. With Cassel struggling and getting booed against the Jets, Garrett made the move to Moore.

"He has not had experience in the NFL playing regular-season games, but he's an experienced quarterback — 53 starts in college, he won 50 of them," Garrett said. "He's had success playing in preseason games. He needs to play more. He made some mistakes, but I thought he handled himself very well."

The last time the Cowboys used four quarterbacks was 2001, when Quincy Carter made eight starts to three each for Ryan Leaf and Anthony Wright and two for Clint Stoerner. That was the second of three straight 5-11 seasons.

"We have not been able to get the continuity to get it going on offense," owner and general manager Jerry Jones said after the loss to the Jets. "Games like that, we have managed to figure out how to lose them rather than win them. And I think you just have to say we are not good enough to win those games."

So the Cowboys will try another starting quarterback.

Niemi comes off bench to lead Stars past Wild

By Mike Cook
Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Antti Niemi stopped 30 shots in relief and the Dallas Stars scored four straight goals to beat the Minnesota Wild 6-3 on Monday night.

Vernon Fiddler scored twice for Dallas, which has won five of seven and is 8-2-2 in its last 12 games. Jordie Benn, Tyler Seguin, Antoine Roussel and Cody Eakin also had goals.

Jared Spurgeon, Charlie Coyle and Nino Niederreiter scored for Minnesota, which lost its second in a row after getting points in nine straight.

Trailing 2-0, and with Niemi having replaced Kari Lehtonen in the first period, Dallas scored three times in 4 1/2 minutes late in the second to take the lead.

Less than a minute after a Jumbotron comparison of Yukon Cornelius from "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" to the thick, bushy-bearded Benn elicited laughs from the sellout crowd, the Dallas defenseman silenced those in attendance — and snapped a 33-game goal drought — when his wrist shot from the blue line beat Devan Dubnyk on the stick side with 5 minutes to play.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division							
Montreal	35	20	12	3	43	104	87
Boston	32	19	9	4	42	104	83
Detroit	33	17	9	7	41	86	85
Florida	34	18	12	4	40	93	80
Ottawa	34	17	12	5	39	104	102
Tampa Bay	34	17	14	3	37	86	80
Buffalo	34	14	16	4	32	79	89
Toronto	31	11	13	7	29	77	86
Metropolitan Division							
Washington	33	25	6	2	52	105	71
N.Y. Islanders	35	19	11	5	43	98	82
N.Y. Rangers	35	19	12	4	42	101	91
New Jersey	34	16	13	5	37	79	84
Philadelphia	34	15	12	7	37	74	92
Pittsburgh	33	16	14	3	35	76	84
Carolina	34	13	16	5	31	80	101
Columbus	36	13	20	3	29	88	112
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
Dallas	34	25	7	2	52	120	88
Chicago	35	20	11	4	44	96	83
St. Louis	35	20	11	4	44	90	85
Minnesota	32	17	9	6	40	89	79
Nashville	34	17	11	6	40	90	86
Colorado	34	17	16	1	35	95	90
Winnipeg	32	15	15	2	32	90	97
Pacific Division							
Los Angeles	32	20	10	2	42	81	71
San Jose	33	16	15	2	34	88	91
Vancouver	35	12	14	9	33	89	102
Arizona	32	15	15	2	32	87	102
Calgary	33	15	16	2	32	87	112
Edmonton	34	14	18	2	30	88	105
Anaheim	32	12	15	5	29	60	82

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss

Scores and schedule

Monday's Scores

N.Y. Islanders 5, Anaheim 2
Philadelphia 4, St. Louis 3
Pittsburgh 5, Columbus 2
Washington 2, Carolina 1
Nashville 5, Montreal 1
Dallas 6, Minnesota 3
Toronto at Colorado, late
Winnipeg at Edmonton, late

Today's Games

St. Louis at Boston, 6 p.m.
Anaheim at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Montreal at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Arizona, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

NFL GLANCE

Standings

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
y-New England	12	2	0	.857	435	269
N.Y. Jets	9	5	0	.643	344	272
Buffalo	6	8	0	.429	341	336
Miami	5	9	0	.357	278	381
South						
Houston	7	7	0	.500	275	301
Indianapolis	6	8	0	.429	285	372
Jacksonville	5	9	0	.357	343	380
Tennessee	3	11	0	.214	289	359
North						
x-Cincinnati	11	3	0	.786	378	243
Pittsburgh	9	5	0	.643	378	287
Baltimore	4	10	0	.286	292	360
Cleveland	3	11	0	.214	253	387
West						
Denver	10	4	0	.714	308	259
Kansas City	9	5	0	.643	365	257
Oakland	6	8	0	.429	319	356
San Diego	4	10	0	.286	280	348
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
Washington	7	7	0	.500	316	332
Philadelphia	6	8	0	.429	316	352
N.Y. Giants	6	8	0	.429	373	356
Dallas	4	10	0	.286	248	324
South						
y-Carolina	14	0	0	1.000	449	278
Atlanta	7	7	0	.500	302	312
Tampa Bay	6	8	0	.429	311	353
New Orleans	5	9	0	.357	350	432
North						
x-Green Bay	10	4	0	.714	347	265
Minnesota	9	5	0	.643	296	272
Detroit	5	9	0	.357	302	363
Chicago	5	9	0	.357	289	352
West						
y-Arizona	12	2	0	.857	445	269
x-Seattle	9	5	0	.643	370	248
St. Louis	6	8	0	.429	241	294
San Francisco	4	10	0	.286	202	339

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Scores and schedules

Monday's Score

Detroit 35, New Orleans 27

Thursday's Game

San Diego at Oakland, 7:25 p.m.

Saturday's Game

Washington at Philadelphia, 7:25 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Houston at Tennessee, noon
Cleveland at Kansas City, noon
New England at N.Y. Jets, noon
Indianapolis at Miami, noon
San Francisco at Detroit, noon
Dallas at Buffalo, noon
Chicago at Tampa Bay, noon
Carolina at Atlanta, noon
Pittsburgh at Baltimore, noon
Jacksonville at New Orleans, 3:05 p.m.
St. Louis at Seattle, 3:25 p.m.
Green Bay at Arizona, 3:25 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 28

Cincinnati at Denver, 7:30 p.m.

SKI REPORT

New Mexico

Angel Fire — Mon 5:35 am 3 new packed powder machine groomed 16 - 25 base 67 of 79 trails
88% open, 7 of 7 lifts, Mon-Thu: 9a-4p; Fri: 9a-6p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Taos — Mon 6:09 am 3 new MG machine groomed 23 - 23 base 34 of 44 trails
77% open, 4 of 7 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Red River — Mon 7:21 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 30 - 35 base 58 of 57 trails
98% open, 250 acres, 7 of 7 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Sandia Peak — Opening Soon for Snow Sports

Sipapu — Mon 5:47 am 3 new powder machine groomed 24 - 32 base 36 of 42 trails
90% open, 165 acres, 5 of 6 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Ski Apache — Sun 9:34 pm MG machine groomed 19 - 63 base 30 of 55 trails
55% open, 7 of 10 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Ski Santa Fe — Sun 9:05 am packed powder machine groomed 69 - 89 base 77 of 79 trails

TABC HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL RANKINGS

SUGAR LAND — High school basketball rankings as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and Tex Preps Basketball magazine for the week of Dec. 21:

BOYS
Class 6A

1. Humble Atascocita, 16-0; 2. DeSoto, 13-1; 3. North Crowley, 11-1; 4. Aldine Davis, 14-0; 5. Cibolo Steele, 16-1; 6. SA Northside Brandeis, 17-0; 7. Amarillo Tascosa, 15-0; 8. Houston Sam Houston, 10-4; 9. Spring Dekaney, 13-6; 10. Allen, 11-3; 11. Killeen Shoemaker, 15-1; 12. Rash Forest, 11-2; 13. Plano East, 10-4; 14. Cedar Hill, 11-1; 15. Flower Mound, 14-0; 16. Richardson, 12-2; 17. Fort Bend Travis, 13-2; 18. South Grand Prairie, 12-4; 19. Irving MacArthur, 7-2; 20. Converse Judson, 14-0; 21. Katy Cinco Ranch, 14-3; 22. Brownsville Veterans, 15-2; 23. Spring Westfield, 13-4; 24. Fort Bend Hightower, 13-3; 25. SA Churchill, 15-3.

Class 5A

1. Fort Bend Elkins, 15-1; 2. Lancaster, 9-2; 3. Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 15-0; 4. Frisco Liberty, 11-3; 5. Houston Yates, 10-3; 6. Fort Bend Bush, 9-6; 7. Beaumont Central, 9-4; 8. Beaumont Ozen, 10-2; 9. Fort Bend Marshall, 14-5; 10. EP Bel Air, 12-1; 11. Edinburg Vela, 18-1; 12. Amarillo Palo Duro, 8-3; 13. WF Rider, 9-4; 14. Rockwall Heath, 9-3; 15. EP Burges, 13-0; 16. The Colony, 13-3; 17 Mansfield Summit, 7-5; 18. McKinney North, 11-3; 19. Arlington Seguin, 8-7; 20. Humble Kingwood Park, 11-3; 21. Kerrville Tivy, 10-4; 22. Boerne Champion, 12-3; 23 West Mesquite, 9-3; 24. Lufkin, 13-3; 25. Fort Worth Chisholm Trail, 8-3.

Class 4A

1. Silsbee, 10-4; 2. Argyle, 11-0; 3. Paris, 12-0; 4. La Marque, 11-4; 5. Dallas Center, 10-3; 6. Brazosport, 16-2; 7 Dallas Madison, 7-5; 8. Houston Wheatley, 12-3; 9. Lubbock Estacado, 6-3; 10. Stafford, 8-6; 11. Bridgeport, 8-8; 12. Wharton, 10-3; 13. Levelland, 7-5; 14 Dallas Triple A, 10-5; 15. Abilene Wylie, 9-5; 16. Wilmer-Hutchins, 9-3; 17. Navasota, 6-0; 18. Liberty Hill, 11-4; 19. Dallas Lincoln, 9-5; 20. Decatur, 8-6; 21. Sour Lake Hardin-Jefferson, 14-4; 22. Tatum, 11-4; 23. Lufkin Hudson, 14-3; 24. Taylor, 7-5; 25. Lamesa, 10-3.

Class 3A

1. Van Alstyne, 9-4; 2. Kountze, 6-0; 3. Bronte/Eola, 9-3; 4. Pondor, 7-6; 5. Dallas Faith Family, 10-6; 6. Kermit, 15-1; 7. Childress, 10-0; 8. Jarrell, 13-1; 9. Brock, 10-5; 10. Aransas Pass, 11-6; 11. SA Randolph, 9-3; 12. Nixon-Smiley, 12-2; 13 Red Oak Llife, 14-0; 14. Bowie, 8-6; 15. Pleaster, 7-4; 16. Shallowater, 4-8; 17. Pollok Central, 11-4; 18 White Oak, 12-2; 19 Coleman, 9-0; 20. East Chambers, 11-1; 21 Palestine Westwood, 10-3; 22. Franklin, 0-0; 23. Whitewright, 8-6; 24. Commerce, 11-2; 25. Lyford, 14-3.

Class 2A

1. Dallardsville Big Sandy, 16-0; 2. Canadian, 0-0; 3. La Rue La Poynor, 12-1; 4. Martins Mill, 13-4; 5. Clarksville, 11-1; 6. Schulenburg, 10-4; 7. Thorndale, 12 1; 8. Stratford, 5-0; 9. San Augustine, 9-2; 10. Muenster, 11-2; 11. Farwell, 11-1; 12. Fatima, 10-2; 13. Panhandle, 12-1; 14. Tenaha, 6-4; 15. Stamford, 12-3; 16. Dallas Gateway, 8-5; 17. Grapeland, 7-7; 18. San Isidro, 13-2; 19. Vega, 8-3; 20. Clarendon, 9-3; 21. Normangee, 8-3; 22. Lockney, 10-3; 23. Port Aransas, 6-8; 24. Avery, 13-4; 25. Harper, 10-2.

Class 1A

1. Grady, 11-2; 2. Lanesville, 8-5; 3. Avinger, 15-1; 4. Lipan, 14-0; 5. Texline, 7-5; 6. Westder, 9-4; 7. Happy, 9-2; 8. Jayton, 10-4; 9. Coolidge, 10-1; 10. Huckabay, 9-5; 11. Chilrino, 11-4; 12. Nazareth, 7-6; 13 Menard, 9-4; 14 Grafford, 7-4; 15. Lingleville, 9-3; 16. Water Valley, 10-1; 17. Calvert, 5-1; 18. Turkey Valley, 7-6; 19. Whitharral, 10-2; 20. Knox City, 13-4; 21. Borden County, 6-1; 22. Ackerly Sands, 9-3; 23. McMullen County, 14-2; 24. Lorenzo, 12-0; 25. Bickett, 7-5.

Large Private Schools

1. Plano Prestonwood Christian, 14-3; 2. Addison Trinity Christian, 14-2; 3. Austin St. Stephen's, 7-1; 4. Houston Christian, 15-5; 5. Tomball Concordia Lutheran, 20-4; 6. Houston Westbury Christian, 13-5; 7. SA Antonian, 14-4; 8. Bellaire Episcopal, 14-2; 9. SA St. Anthony Catholic, 16-4; 10. Saint Mary's Hall, 15-4; 11. Houston Kinkaid, 12-4; 12. Dallas Greenhill, 12-4; 13. Dallas Parish Episcopal, 10-1; 14. FW Southwest Christian, 12-4; 15. Houston St. Thomas, 11-3; 16. Houston The Village School, 14-0; 17. Beaumont Monsignor, 14-1; 18. SA Central Catholic, 14-5; 19. Austin St. Dominic Savio, 12-6; 20. FW Nolan Catholic, 13-0; 21. Lubbock Trinity Christian, 10-3; 22. Houston The Emery/Weiner, 10-2; 23. Holy Cross of San Antonio, 16-5; 24. Midland Christian, 9-2; 25. Grapevine Faith Christian, 15-3.

Small Private Schools

1. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian, 9-3; 2. Arlington Grace Prep, 11-4; 3. Beaumont Legacy Christian, 10-2; 4. Houston St. Thomas Episcopal, 9-11; 5. Baytown Christian, 11-1; 6. Aledo Bishop Lynch, 2-7; 7. Midland Classical, 13-8; 8. Waco Vanguard College Preparatory, 7-5; 9. The Woodlands Christian, 13-6; 10. Conroe Lifestyle Christian, 16-2; 11. Lubbock Christian, 14-2; 12. SA Lutheran, 13-5; 13. Geneva School of Boerne, 15-6; 14. FW Lake Country Christian, 6-9; 15. Dallas Newman, 12-3; 16. Kerrville Our Lady of the Hills, 8-2; 17. Kingwood Northland Christian, 17-6; 18. Granbury North Texas Christian, 6-4; 19. Katy Faith West, 9-4; 20. Temple Central Texas Christian, 7-2; 21. Dallas First Baptist, 5-3; 22. Huntsville Alpha Omega, 14-5; 23. Lubbock All Saints Episcopal School, 9-7; 24. Fredericksburg Heritage School, 10-1; 25. League City Bay Area Christian, 7-10.

GIRLS
Class 6A

1. Duncanville, 18-0; 2. Galena Park North Shore, 20-1; 3. Spring Dekaney, 15-1; 4. Amarillo, 15-2; 5. Plano West, 14-2; 6. Flower Mound, 14-2; 7. Waco Midway, 15-1; 8. Cedar Hill, 16-3; 9. Cibolo Steele, 20-1; 10. SA Northside Clark, 20-2; 11. Harlingen, 17-1; 12. Houston Westside, 14-3; 13. League City Clear Springs, 14-4; 14. South Grand Prairie, 15-4; 15. SA Wagner, 10-5; 16. Laredo United South, 18-4; 17. SA Johnson, 15-5; 18. Cypress Woods, 12-6; 19. Mesquite Horn, 13-3; 20. Killeen, 14-4; 21. Austin Bowie, 13-5; 22. Fort Bend Hightower, 13-4; 23. Laredo Alexander, 19-5; 24. Euless Trinity, 15-1; 25. Round Rock Westwood, 12-4.

Class 5A

1. Canyon, 13-0; 2. Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 15-2; 3 EP Burges, 13-3; 4 WF Rider, 15-1; 5 Lufkin, 16-0; 6. Mansfield Timberview, 13-0; 7. Tyler, 15-2; 8. Barbers Hill, 12-4; 9. Lumberton, 20-0; 10. Floresville, 16-3; 11. Bryan Rudder, 13-4; 12. San Angelo Lake View, 18-2; 13. Prosper, 13-3; 14. West Mesquite, 10-4; 15. Frisco Liberty, 13-4; 16. Hereford, 13-3; 17. Tomball Memorial, 11-2; 18. Georgetown, 10-6; 19. Plainview, 12-7; 20. McKinney North, 10-6; 21. A&M Consolidated, 13-5; 22. Lake Dallas, 11-4; 23. Houston Foster, 15-3. 24. Mansfield Legacy, 10-5; 25. Mission Sharyland, 15-7.

Class 4A

1 Argyle, 16-1; 2. Navasota, 18-0; 3. Abilene Wylie, 12-3; 4. Sanger, 16-1; 5. Dallas Lincoln, 11-2; 6. Bellville, 13-3; 7. Tatum, 14-1; 8. Waco La Vega, 13-2; 9 Bullard, 16-2; 10. Waco Connally, 18-1; 11. Mexia, 11-2; 12 Devine, 15-1; 13. Brownsboro, 17-4; 14. Canton, 11-5; 15. Lufkin Hudson, 13-2; 16. Brownwood, 11-3; 17 Liberty Hill, 17-1; 18. Brazosport, 11-4; 19 Wharton, 15-0; 20. Tyler Chapel Hill, 15-4; 21. Taylor, 11-2; 22. Carrollton Ranchview, 13-2; 23. Kennedale, 12-6; 24. Levelland, 10-7; 25. Houston Wheatley, 10-3.

Class 3A

1. Jarrel, 17-0; 2. Weir, 13-2; 3. Shallowater, 13-0; 4. Nacogdoches Central Heights, 13-2; 5. Winnsboro, 14-2; 6. Bowie, 12-4; 7. Brock, 13-2; 8. Runnels, 13-3; 9. SA Cole, 18-3; 10. Midway, 17-0; 11. Buffalo, 13-0; 12. Dallas Life Oak Cliff, 11-3; 13. Malakoff, 11-3; 14. Mineola, 11-4; 15. Howe, 13-2; 16. Albin-Golden, 10-5; 17 Tuscola Jim Ned, 10-4; 18. Mount Pleasant Chapel Hill, 16-6; 19. Lubbock Roosevelt, 15-1; 20. Grandview, 6-6; 21. Hallettsville, 15-3; 22. Hitchcock, 18-3; 23. Marion, 12-5; 24. Kermes City, 13-3; 25. Elysian Fields, 13-2.

Class 2A

1. La Rue La Poynor, 17-1; 2. Canadian, 10-3; 3. Weimar, 15-1; 4 Martins Mill, 12-4; 5. Mason, 17-2; 6. Windthorst, 13-1; 7. Panhandle, 16-2; 8. Gruver, 13-3; 9. Smyer, 13-3; 10. Muenster, 12-3; 11. San Saba, 13-3; 12. Claude, 16-1; 13. Santo, 16-1; 14. Goldthwaite, 14-2; 15. Hico, 13-3; 16. Rosebud-Lott, 14-2; 17. Christoval, 13-4; 18. Falls City, 11-5; 19. Gladewater Union Grove, 15-3; 20. McLeod, 14-2; 21 Slocum, 14-3; 23. Bradale, 16-4; 24. Wellington, 13-3; 24. Thorndale, 12-1; 25. Alvord, 14-3.

Class 1A

1. Garden City, 13-1; 2. Nazareth, 10-4; 3. Lipan, 12-4; 4 Chireno, 18-1; 5. Dodd City, 14-1; 6. Saltillo, 12-6; 7 O'Donnell, 16-4; 8. Nueces Canyon, 12-2; 9 Richland Springs, 11-0; 10. Whitharral, 11-4; 11. Iraq, 13-2; 12. Huckabay, 10-4; 13. D'Hanis, 5-4; 14. May, 12-1; 15. Turkey Valley, 10-1; 16. Newcastle, 14-4; 17 Goodrich, 11-3; 18 Follett, 9-5; 19. Grady, 8-4; 20. McMullen County, 13-3; 21. Lorenzo, 12-5; 22. Robert Lee, 10-3; 23. North Zulch, 10-3; 24. Paducah, 8-4; 25. Spur, 12-7.

Large Private Schools

1. Argyle Liberty Christian 16-2; 2. Tomball Concordia Lutheran 17-5; 3. SA Antonian 19-3; 4. Dallas Bishop Lynch 10-5; 5. Plano Prestonwood 6-3; 6. CC Incarnate Word 15-2; 7. SA Incarnate Word 11-3; 8. Lubbock Trinity 8-8; 9. Houston Westbury Christian 13-5; 10. Dallas Christian 15-3; 11. Victoria St. Josephs 14-3; 12. Houston Kinkaid 11-5; 13. Austin St. Michaels 10-8; 14. Dallas Greenhill 10-4; 15. Houston Episcopal 12-5; 16. Austin Regents 13-4; 17 Houston Duchesne 14-3; 18. Dallas Parish Episcopal 10-3; 19 Houston Christian 10-8; 20. Austin St. Dominic Savio 11-5; 21 Houston St. Agnes 11-7; 22. SA Christian 11-7; 23. Houston Village School 13-3. 24. Plano John Paul II 7-7; 25. Dallas Lusaka 12-4.

Small Private Schools

1. Lubbock Christian; 14-4; 2. Houston Lutheran North; 16-2; 3. Marble Falls Faith; 15-4; 4. FW Lake Country Christian; 14-5; 5. Beaumont Legacy Christian; 9-5; 6. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian; 11-3 7. McKinney Christian, 9-2; 8. Tomball Rosehill Christian. 11-1; 9 Austin Brentwood Christian, 9-5; 10. Sherman Texoma Christian, 8-6 11. League City Bay Area Christian, 11-1; 12. Midland Classical, 8-6; 13. Austin Waldorf, 12-4; 14. Denton Calvary, 9-5; 15. Baytown Christian, 9-5; 16. Waco Vanguard, 9-2; 17. Kennedale Fellowship, 11-5; 18. Dallas Lutheran, 10-2; 19 Austin Texas School for the Deaf, 10-3; 20. SA Christian Academy, 10-6; 21. Connor Covenant Christian, 11-5; 22. Bryan St. Joseph Catholic, 15-5; 22. Granbury North Central Texas, 4-7; 23 SA Lutheran, 8-4; 24. Temple Central Texas Christian, 7-1; 25 Spring Frassati Catholic, 9-3; 25 Shiner St. Paul Catholic, 6-2

Harden scores 36 points, leads Rockets over Hornets

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — James Harden scored 36 points and the Houston Rockets squandered a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter before coming back for a 102-95 win over the Charlotte Hornets on Monday night.

The game was tied before Harden drove into the lane and was fouled as he made a layup. He hit the free throws to put Houston up 94-91 with 31.6 seconds left.

Cody Zeller attempted a dunk contested by Terrence Jones and it bounced off the rim and back to the Rockets a few seconds after that. The Hornets fouled Patrick Beverley and he made two free throws to extend the lead to 96-91.

Jeremy Lin made two free throws after that but missed a pair after Beverley made one for the Rockets.

Harden made 16 of 19 free throws and secured Houston's third straight win by making two with 13.9 seconds remaining.

Kemba Walker led the Hornets with 14 points.

A 3-pointer by Beverley extended Houston's lead to 79-66 with about 9 minutes left before Charlotte scored the next 13 points to tie it up about 9 minutes later. Frank Kaminsky got things going in that span with a three-point play and Lin and Spencer Hawes both made 3-pointers to power the run.

The Rockets got back on track after that with a 3-pointer by Harden for their first points in almost 3 minutes and a two-handed dunk by Jones came next to put them up 84-79.

The Rockets were clinging to a one-point lead with about 3 1/2 minutes left when Harden juked Lin, causing him to topple to the ground before stepping back to make a jump shot to make it 86-83.

Marvin Williams made a 3-pointer before Dwight Howard fouled out when he tried to stop Lin under the basket. Lin made one of the free throws to give Charlotte an 89-88 lead with less than 2 minutes left.

The Rockets led by one at halftime and opened the second half with eight straight points to make it 53-44.

Howard received three fouls in less than 90 seconds soon after that and went to the bench with four fouls with about 7 1/2 minutes left in the quarter. Two of the fouls were on loose balls and one was an offensive foul.

The Hornets got within four later in the third on a 3-pointer by Kaminsky, but Nicolas Batum and coach Steve Clifford got technical fouls within seconds of each other for arguing calls. That helped the Rockets score the last five points of the period and take a 69-60 lead into the fourth quarter.

Jones capped that spurt when he grabbed a rebound and took it to the other end for a layup just before the buzzer.

The Rockets led 45-44 at halftime after a layup by Harden with seconds left in the second quarter.

COLLEGEBASKETBALLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

NO. 7 NORTH CAROLINA 94 APPALACHIAN ST. 70

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Brice Johnson scored 22 points to help No. 7 North Carolina beat Appalachian State 94-70 on Monday night.

North Carolina guard Marcus Paige played only 17 minutes, jamming his right ankle in the first half.

NO. 10 PROVIDENCE 90 UMASS 66

AMHERST, Mass. — Ben Bentil scored a career-high 32 points and pulled down 12 rebounds to lead Providence.

Kris Dunn returned to the Friars (12-1) after missing the previous two games with a stomach virus. The preseason All-America had 14 points and 11 assists in 24 minutes.

NO. 19 WEST VIRGINIA 84 EASTERN KENTUCKY 59

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Jaysean Paige scored all of his 17 points in the first half and West Virginia won easy.

Women

No. 4 BAYLOR 77 JAMES MADISON 63

WINTER PARK, Fla. — Nina Davis scored 15 of her 19 points in the second half, Niya Johnson had 15 assists and Baylor got a big lift from its reserves.

Beatrice Montpremier, a 6-foot-4 freshman reserve, had 14 points and 17 rebounds for the Bears (13-0). Johnson, the national leader in assists per game (10.5), also had six points and seven rebounds.

NO. 25 MISSOURI 82 TEXAS ST. 56

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Sophie Cunningham scored 21 points and Jordan Frericks added 19 for undefeated Missouri.

Missouri (12-0), leading 55-48 entering the fourth quarter, limited Texas Sate to eight points over the final 10 minutes.

Sophie Cunningham grabbed nine rebounds and Lindsey Cunningham had a career-high 14 assists for the Tigers.

NO. 1 UCONN 86 LSU 40

HARTFORD, Conn. — Moriah Jefferson led UConn with 17 points and the top-ranked Huskies, playing without two-time national player of the year Breanna Stewart, routed LSU 86-40 on Monday night.

Morgan Tuck and Katie Lou Samuelson each scored 14 points and Gabby Williams chipped in 13 to help UConn to its 46th straight win.

NO. 3 NOTRE DAME 91 SAINT JOSEPH'S 55

PHILADELPHIA — Lindsay Allen had 16 points, nine assists and seven rebounds to lead Notre Dame.

Marina Mabrey scored 18 points while Kathryn Westbeld added 16 for the Irish (10-1).

NO. 8 MISSISSIPPI ST. 72 SMU 70

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Victoria Vivians scored 18 points and Ketara Chapel added 13 for Mississippi State in the Puerto Rico Classic.

Mississippi State (11-1) controlled most of the game and had a 65-54 lead going into the fourth quarter.

NO. 9 OHIO ST. 93 VIRGINIA 73

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ameryst Alston scored 24 points and Kelsey Mitchell added 23 to lead Ohio State.

The Buckeyes (8-3) scored the first nine points of the game and never trailed.

NO. 22 ARIZONA ST. 68 NO. 10 FLORIDA ST. 56

TEMPE, Ariz. — Arnecia Hawkins hit all seven of her shots, including three 3-pointers, for a career-high 23 points for Arizona State.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Monday's scores

MEN
SOUTHWEST
Lamar 86, Texas Lutheran 69
Texas St. 92, Howard Payne 43
Texas-Arlington 98, Sul Ross St. 40
SOUTH
E. Michigan 73, Coppin St. 62
Elon 86, UNC Asheville 81
Florida St. 75, Charleston Southern 64
Georgia Tech 75, SE Louisiana 62
Jacksonville 68, Florida A&M 66
Jacksonville St. 79, N. Colorado 76
Louisiana-Lafayette 79, New Orleans 69
Lynchburg 86, Berry 84
North Carolina 94, Appalachian St. 70
Oregon 72, Alabama 68
Pikeville 126, Carlow 70
UT Martin 70, Alcorn St. 47
VMI 76, Gardner-Webb 75
William & Mary 76, High Point 75, OT
FAR WEST
Akron 84, UC Santa Barbara 70
Colorado St. 66, SC-Upstate 61
Gonzaga 99, Pepperdine 73
N. Dakota St. 67, Idaho St. 62
New Mexico St. 76, Oral Roberts 61
Oregon St. 82, Quinnipiac 61
Portland 87, Loyola Marymount 60
UC Irvine 63, Sam Houston St. 53
MIDWEST
Creighton 105, North Texas 82
Culver-Stockton 88, St. Ambrose 63
Indiana-East 79, Ind.-South Bend 75
Loyola of Chicago 72, W. Illinois 67
Marquette 91, Chicago St. 74
Northwestern 103, Sacred Heart 67
Notre Dame 87, Youngstown St. 78
Ohio 65, Ark.-Pine Bluff 58
Olivet 80, Grace Bible 74
S. Illinois 65, Saint Louis 52
Toledo 95, NC A&T 62
EAST
Boston U. 78, New Hampshire 74
Holy Cross 76, Maine 75
Providence 90, UMass 66
West Virginia 84, E. Kentucky 59
TOURNAMENT
Global Sports Classic-Hosts First Round
Grand Canyon 78, Houston 69
Nebraska-Omaha 85, E. Illinois 68
Southern U. 68, NC Central 63

WOMEN
SOUTHWEST
North Texas 62, Incarnate Word 55
Texas Southern 69, Rice 66, OT
Texas-Arlington 51, UTSA 47
SOUTH
Arizona 79, Gardner-Webb 60
Baylor 77, James Madison 63
Bethune-Cookman 65, Georgia Southern 49
Clemson 67, UNC Asheville 49
Coastal Carolina 83, Wofford 69
ETSU 80, Austin Peay 76
Georgia St. 80, Stetson 72, OT
Huntington 55, Cumberland (Tenn.) 35
Mercer 48, Jacksonville St. 39
Mississippi St. 72, SMU 70
Morehead St. 112, Alabama A&M 69
Presbyterian 60, NC Central 50
Troy 100, SE Louisiana 80
UAB 61, Samford 41
VCU 73, William & Mary 47
Vanderbilt 64, UT Martin 61
Virginia Tech 47, Radford 40
W. Kentucky 64, Lipscomb 56
West Virginia 75, Indiana 64
FAR WEST
Arizona St. 68, Florida St. 56
Boise St. 84, E. Washington 79
Cornell 68, Cal St.-Fullerton 47
Emory & Henry 68, Goucher 61
Grand Canyon 69, N. Colorado 59
Montana St. 74, Detroit (Mon.) 34
Oregon St. 80, Cal Poly 43
Santa Clara 76, Pacific 52
UC Riverside 82, Seattle 70
Wyoming 77, Colorado 68
MIDWEST
Akron 74, Youngstown St. 49
Ball St. 73, Evansville 53
Cent. Michigan 76, SIU-Edwardsville 65
Florida Gulf Coast 60, W. Michigan 42
Illinois St. 87, Chicago St. 53
Indiana St. 70, Butler 63, OT
Kansas St. 84, W. Illinois 45
Loyola of Chicago 65, DePaul 75
Michigan St. 91, Detroit 42
Missouri 82, Texas St. 56
N. Illinois 68, Bradley 64
Nebraska 79, Arkansas St. 71
Ohio St. 93, Virginia 73
Purdue 56, Maine 39
S. Dakota St. 85, Bowling Green 46
Valparaiso 86, Indiana-Kokomo 22
Xavier 63, Kennesaw St. 59
EAST
Buffalo 87, Niagara 48
Canisius 68, Northeastern 57
Dartmouth 60, Holy Cross 54
Drexel 62, Quinnipiac 49
Navy 64, Air Force 46
Notre Dame 91, Saint Joseph's 55
Penn 78, Wagner 50
Stony Brook 71, LIU Brooklyn 54
Syracuse 65, Jacksonville 49
UConn 86, LSU 40
TOURNAMENT
Gator Holiday Classic Championship
Florida 79, NC State 72
Third Place
E. Kentucky 88, St. Francis (Pa.) 82
Tulane Classic Championship
Tulane 66, Saint Louis 58
Third Place
UNC-Greensboro 55, Cleveland St. 51

Today's schedules

MEN
SOUTHWEST
UALR at Texas Tech, 2 p.m.
North Florida at Arkansas, 7 p.m.
N. Arizona at Tulsa, 7 p.m.
Cal Poly at UTSA, 7 p.m.
Cent. Arkansas at Arkansas St., 7:05 p.m.
SOUTH
Georgetown at Charleston, 11 a.m.
Wagner at George Mason, 11 a.m.
Presbyterian at Richmond, 11 a.m.
Alabama St. at Winthrop, 11 a.m.
Coll. of Charleston at Campbell, 1 p.m.
Radford at Chattanooga, 2 p.m.
Cent. Pennsylvania at Md.-Eastern Shore, 3 p.m.
Troy at Mississippi, 3 p.m.
Louisiana Tech at Florida Gulf Coast, 5 p.m.
Middle Tennessee at Georgia St., 5 p.m.
Utah Valley vs. UNC Wilmington at KFC Yum! Center, Louisville, Ky., 5:15 p.m.
SC State at East Carolina, 6 p.m.
Jacksonville at Florida, 6 p.m.
Navy at Furman, 6 p.m.
Clemson at Georgia, 6 p.m.
Stetson at Georgia Southern, 6 p.m.
Mount St. Mary's at James Madison, 6 p.m.
UNC Greensboro at NC State, 6 p.m.
Rhode Island at Old Dominion, 6 p.m.
ETSU at Tennessee, 6 p.m.
Southern Miss. at Tulane, 6 p.m.
Bethune-Cookman at UCF, 6 p.m.
Buffalo at VCU, 6 p.m.
Xavier at Wake Forest, 6 p.m.
Wofford at Austin Peay, 7 p.m.
American U. at LSU, 7 p.m.
IUPUI at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Hiwassee at UAB, 7 p.m.
Detroit at W. Kentucky, 7 p.m.
Rice at South Alabama, 7:05 p.m.
UMKC at Louisville, 8 p.m.
California at Virginia, 8 p.m.
FAR WEST
Stephen F. Austin at Arizona St., 2 p.m.
UC Santa Barbara vs. Iona at South Point Arena, Las Vegas, 2 p.m.
Montana-Western at Montana, 2 p.m.
Johnson & Wales (CO) at Air Force, 8 p.m.
Long Beach St. at Arizona, 8 p.m.
Delaware St. at Utah, 8 p.m.
S. Dakota St. at Weber St., 8 p.m.
Portland St. at CS Bakersfield, 9 p.m.
Idaho at UC Davis, 9 p.m.
Denver at UC Riverside, 9 p.m.
South Dakota at UNLV, 9 p.m.
Idaho St. at Utah St., 9 p.m.
Kansas at San Diego St., 10 p.m.
McNeese St. at UCLA, 10 p.m.
Seattle at Washington, 10 p.m.
MIDWEST
Kennesaw St. at Indiana, 5 p.m.
Howard at Cent. Michigan, 6 p.m.
Iowa St. at Drake, 6 p.m.
Miami (Ohio) at Dayton, 6 p.m.
Tennessee St. at Illinois St., 6 p.m.
Ball St. at Indiana St., 6 p.m.
Michigan St. vs. Oakland at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 6 p.m.
IPFW at W. Michigan, 6 p.m.
Murray St. at SIU-Edwardsville, 6 p.m.
Texas Rio Grande Valley at N. Dakota St., 6:30 p.m.
Maine Christian at Drake, 7 p.m.
Alabama A&M at Evansville, 7 p.m.
Purdue-Calumet at Ill.-Chicago, 7 p.m.
North Dakota at Kansas St., 7 p.m.
Northern Ill. at Illinois, 7 p.m.
Prairie View at Nebraska, 7 p.m.
Vanderbilt at Purdue, 7 p.m.
Nevada at Wichita St., 7 p.m.
SE Missouri at Missouri St., 7:05 p.m.
S. Utah at Butler, 7:30 p.m.
Tennessee Tech at Iowa, 7:30 p.m.
George Washington at DePaul, 8 p.m.
Mercer at Ohio St., 8 p.m.
EAST
Widener at Hartford, 10 a.m.
Vermont at Northeastern, noon
Virginia Tech at Saint Joseph's, noon
Fordham at Boston College, 2:30 p.m.
Miami at La Salle, 4 p.m.
Marist vs. Brown at Michigan Sun Arena, Uncasville, Conn., 5:30 p.m.
South Florida at Seton Hall, 5:30 p.m.
FIU at Binghamton, 6 p.m.
Lafayette at Dartmouth, 6 p.m.
Penn at Drexel, 6 p.m.
Loyola (Md.) at Fairfield, 6 p.m.
Intramals Word at LIU Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
Stony Brook at Lehigh, 6 p.m.
Bucknell at Princeton, 6 p.m.
St. Bonaventure at Siena, 6 p.m.
Montana St. at Syracuse, 6 p.m.
Delaware at Villanova, 6 p.m.
FAU at Hofstra, 6:30 p.m.
St. John's vs. South Carolina at Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, Conn., 8 p.m.
TOURNAMENTS
Global Sports Classic-Hosts
At Las Vegas
Third Place, 7 p.m.
Championship, 9:30 p.m.
Global Sports Classic-Visitors
At Las Vegas
Third Place, 1 p.m.
Championship, 3:30 p.m.
Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic
At Honolulu
First Round
Auburn vs. New Mexico, 1:30 p.m.
BYU vs. Harvard, 4 p.m.
Oklahoma vs. Washington St., 10 p.m.
N. Iowa at Hawaii, 12:30 a.m.
Las Vegas Classic-Hosts
At Las Vegas
First Round
Kent St. vs. SMU, 7 p.m.
Colorado vs. Penn St., 9:30 p.m.
Las Vegas Classic-Visitors
At Las Vegas
First Round
Nichols St. vs. Hampton, 2 p.m.
Canisius vs. Louisiana-Monroe, 4:30 p.m.
Sun Bowl Invitational
At El Paso
Third Place, 6 p.m.
Championship, 8:30 p.m.
WOMEN
SOUTHWEST
UALR at Texas A&M, noon
SOUTH
W. Carolina at Charleston Southern, 11 a.m.
WVU Tech at Marshall, 11 a.m.
Bucknell at Morgan St., 11 a.m.
Oklahoma St. at UCF, noon
Winthrop at Coll. of Charleston, 1 p.m.
Longwood at Delaware St., 1 p.m.
Old Dominion at Md.-Eastern Shore, 1 p.m.
FIU at Miami, 1 p.m.
McNeese St. at Louisiana Tech, 6 p.m.
Elon at South Carolina, 6 p.m.
Wichita St. at Tennessee Tech, 6 p.m.
FAR WEST
Utah at Utah St., 2 p.m.
CS Bakersfield at Stanford, 4 p.m.
UC Irvine at Sacramento St., 4:05 p.m.
Hawaii at San Jose St., 5 p.m.
MIDWEST
IPFW at Oakland, 11 a.m.
Nevada at Ill.-Chicago, noon
S. Illinois at SE Missouri, noon
Brown at Kent St., 1 p.m.
UMKC at Northwestern, 1 p.m.
EAST
N. Dakota St. at NJIT, 11 a.m.
Loyola (Md.) at St. Francis Brooklyn, noon
American at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Fairfield at St. John's, 1 p.m.
Colgate at Lafayette, 4 p.m.
Vermont at Delaware, 5 p.m.
Hartford at UMass, 6 p.m.

Polls

USA TODAY MEN'S POLL
The top 25 teams in the USA Today men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 20, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Michigan State (29)	12-0	775	1
2. Oklahoma (2)	8-0	718	3
3. Kansas	9-1	716	5
4. Maryland	10-1	687	7
5. Virginia	9-1	646	9
6. Xavier	11-0	603	10
7. North Carolina	9-2	520	11
8. Arizona	11-1	517	12
9. Iowa State	9-1	504	2
10. Duke	9-2	455	6
11. Kentucky	9-2	441	4
12. Butler	11-1	410	18
13. Purdue	9-1	376	8
14. Providence	11-1	376	14
15. Louisville	9-1	371	16
16. Miami	9-1	323	19
17. Villanova	8-2	310	13
18. West Virginia	9-1	301	15
19. Texas A&M	8-2	189	20
20. George Washington	10-1	159	22
21. Cincinnati	10-2	153	20
22. Baylor	8-0	132	14
23. South Carolina	10-0	77	25
24. Gonzaga	8-3	68	21
25. Vanderbilt	7-3	63	23

Others receiving votes: UConn 59, Utah 35, Pittsburgh 34, Colorado 31, UCLA 23, Oregon 16, Notre Dame 15, Dayton 10, UALR 8, California 6, Northern Iowa 5, Texas 3, Florida 4, Indiana 3, Iowa 2, Monmouth 2.

AP MEN'S POLL
The top 25 teams in The Associated Press college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 20, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Michigan St. (64)	12-0	1,623	1
2. Kansas (1)	9-1	1,537	2
3. Oklahoma	8-0	1,495	3
4. Maryland	10-1	1,428	6
5. Virginia	9-1	1,350	8
6. Xavier	11-0	1,287	10
7. North Carolina	9-2	1,215	11
8. Arizona	11-1	1,056	13
9. Butler	9-1	947	17
10. Providence	11-1	911	14
11. Iowa St.	9-1	907	5
12. Kentucky	9-2	856	4
13. Miami	9-1	851	15
14. Purdue	11-1	833	9
15. Duke	9-2	809	7
16. Louisville	9-1	652	19
17. Villanova	8-2	649	12
18. SMU	9-0	528	18
19. West Virginia	9-1	470	20
20. George Washington	10-1	366	21
21. Texas A&M	9-2	327	24
22. Cincinnati	10-2	315	23
23. Baylor	8-2	141	16
24. Utah	9-2	107	—
25. South Carolina	10-0	87	—

Others receiving votes: UCLA 49, UConn 46, Oregon 34, Gonzaga 33, Colorado 27, Dayton 17, Pittsburgh 16, N. Iowa 15, UALR 14, Vanderbilt 8, Monmouth (NJ) 6, Iowa 5, Florida 3, Texas 3, Northwestern 2.

USA TODAY WOMEN'S POLL
The top 25 teams in the USA Today women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 14, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. UConn (32)

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TUESDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 22, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

						6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Fresh Off the Boat	The Muppets	The Year: 2015 A look at the most memorable moments of the year. (N)				KMID News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Lost in Translation"		NCIS: New Orleans "Sic Semper Tyrannis"		Limitless "The Legend of Marcos Ramos"		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	MASH "C.A.V.E"	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Wonder Woman "The Deadly Toys"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Crying Comedian"		McCloud
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	The Simpsons	Ice Age Christmas	Taraji and Terrence's White Hot Holidays		TMZ	2 Broke Girls	Modern Family	Two and Half Men	Met Your Mother	Hot in Cleveland
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Jean-Claude	Joshua Caleb	Update News	Rocks/Manuscripts	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Dr. Brad Young	Mission: M25	Ministerios Nueva Vida	
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m.		Chicago P.D. "Debts of the Past"		Chicago Med "Derailed"		Chicago Fire "I Walk Away"		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Prohibition "A Nation of Scofflaws" 2/3 cont'd Dec 29				Frontline		Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Muchacha Italiana viene a casarse		Antes muerta que lichita		Pasion y poder		Yo no creo en los hombres		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	Dead "Wildfire"		Dead "15-19"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Office	Access H.
FLIX	340	575			165	(4:55) ★ The Million ...		★★★ The Crying Game Stephen Rea.				★★★ Evita ('96, Mus) Antonio Banderas, Madonna.					Movie
HBO	300	550	14	14		(4:45) ★ The Longest...		★★ The Maze Runner Dylan O'Brien.				Real Sports (N)		★ Bolshoi Babylon			Movie
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(4:45) ★ Dawn of th...		Very Semi-Serious			★ Ride Along Ice Cube.			(:15) Boxing Card TBA			
HBO5	304	552	16	102		(5:05) ★ Taken 3		★★★ O Brother, Where Art Thou?				Girls	Girls	★ The Drop ('14, Cri) Tom Hardy.			Movie
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:00) ★ Dark Blue		★ A Walk Among the Tombstones				The Knick		★ Carnal Wishes (2015, Adult)			★ Lucy
MAX2	382	558	18	122		Movie	★ Into the Storm			★ Barbershop 2: Back in Busi...		(:50) ★★ 300: Rise of an Empire					(:35) Zane
PLEX			96			(5:30) ★ High Schoo...		★★ Radio Flyer ('92, Dra) Lorraine Bracco.				★★★★ The Elephant Man				(:10) ★ The New Da...	
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(5:50) ★ Need for Speed ('14, Act) Aaron Paul.				Inside the NFL (N)		Homeland		Inside the NFL		★ The Seven Five	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:00) ★ Rounders		★★ Scary Movie			★ Blood Out ('11, Act) Luke Goss.			★★★ Pulp Fiction ('94, Cri) John Travolta.			
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Married at First Sight "The Weddings"		Married/ First Sight "Wedding Night"		Married/ First Sight "Honeymoons" (N)		Born This Way "Dream Makers" (N)		What Would You Do?		Married/ First Sight "Wedding Night"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:00) ★ The Muppet...		★ A Muppet Chris...		★★ The Muppet Movie (1979, Family)				★ A Muppet Chris...		★ The Great Mupp...	
BET	58	-		40		(5:00) ★ Christmas a...		Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Payne	Payne	Payne	Payne	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO	65	76		41		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills (N)		Girlfriends' Guide (N)		Beverly Hills		Girlfriends' Guide	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	The Profit		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Profit	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Anthony Bourdain		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360		Anthony Bourdain	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Mnshiner "Still Life"		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Austin	Bunk'd	★ Home Alone 5: Alone In th...		(:40) ★★ A Christmas Carol Jim Carrey.				Underc.		Jessie	Jessie
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Football Boca Raton Bowl Temple vs. Toledo Site: Fau Stadium (L)							SportsCenter			SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Iowa State at Cincinnati (L)				NCAA Basketball California vs. Virginia (L)				NFL Live		NBA	NFL Live
FAMILY	53	63	34	42	33	(5:30) ★★★ The Santa Clause				(:45) ★★ The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause				The 700 Club		★ Holiday In Han...	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped Junior (N)		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Mavs Pre (L)	NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Toronto Raptors Site: Air Canada Centre -- Toronto, Ont. (L)					Maverick-ks Live (L)	Special (N)	UIL Championship Spotlight "Volleyball"		WPT Poker L.A. Classic	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) ★ Pacific Rim				★★★★ Star Trek: Into Darkness ('13, Sci-Fi) Chris Pine.				★★★★ Star Trek: Into Darkness			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	(5:00) ★ Christmas ...		★ Crown for Christmas Danica McKellar.				★ Royal Christmas ('14, Dra) Lacey Chabert.				★ Matchmaker S...	
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper (N)		H.Hunt	House	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Curse of Oak Island		Oak Island (N)		Oak Island (N)		Hunting Hitler (N)		(:05) Hunting Hitler		Curse of Oak Island	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	(5:00) ★ With This Ring Brooklyn Sudano.		★ The Christmas Hope (2009, Drama) James Remar, Tori Barban, Madeleine Stowe.				★ Dear Santa (2011, Drama) Gina Holden, Emma Duke, Amy Acker.				★ The Christmas Hope	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	43				NHL Live! (L)		NHL Hockey Montréal Canadiens at Minnesota Wild (L)						NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Los Angeles Kings (L)			
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Talia (N)	Ho Ho Holiday		GShakers	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Jail	Jail
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	★★ Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull						The Expanse (N)		The Expanse		The Expanse	
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan Kunal Nayyar, Ed Burns, EL VY		2 Broke Girls	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:30) ★ North by N...		★★★ Desk Set Katharine Hepburn.				★★★ My Favorite Wife			(:45) ★ The Goodbye Girl		
TELE	20	-	10	20		Decision	Noticiero	Caso cerrado		Celia		Bajo el mismo cielo		Señora acero		Al rojo	Titulares
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Kate Plus Eight "Florida Fun"		J. Jessa "Baby Shower and a New Home"		Kate Eight "What's Old Is New" (N)		7 Johnstons "Big Daddy Eagle Scout" (N)		(:05) Jill and Jessa: Counting On		(:05) Kate Plus Eight "What's Old Is New"	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Castle "Heroes and Villains"		★★ Four Christmases ('08, Com) Reese Witherspoon, Robert Duvall, Vince Vaughn.				★★ Four Christmases ('08, Com) Reese Witherspoon, Robert Duvall, Vince Vaughn.				CSI: NY "The Real McCoy"	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	FactsLife	FactsLife	FactsLife	FactsLife	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Younger	Younger	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	(4:30) ★★★★ G.I. Joe: Retaliation		WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries. (N)				Chrisley Knows (N)	Chrisley Knows	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family
WGN	19	85				Person of Interest "Pretenders"		★ E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial A young boy forms a special bond with a stranded alien & tries to help him return home.						Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	How I Met Your Mother "Woooo!"	

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FIFA ethics court bans Blatter, Platini for 8 years

By Graham Dunbar
Associated Press

ZURICH — Banished from soccer's ruling body for eight years for unethical conduct, Sepp Blatter won't give up the presidency of his beloved FIFA without a fight.

"I will fight. I will fight until the end," Blatter said Monday at a news conference that started 90 minutes after he and former protege Michel Platini were each banned by FIFA's ethics committee.

It was a stunning removal of world soccer's most powerful leaders over a $2 million payment by FIFA to Platini, the president of European soccer's ruling body UEFA. The payment is also the subject of a criminal investigation in Switzerland.

"I'm sad. It can't go on this way. It's not possible," said the 79-year-old Blatter, who has spent more than half his life working for soccer's scandal-hit governing body. "After 40 years, it can't happen this way. I'm fighting to restore my rights."

Already serving a provisional ban, the elected FIFA president and his long-time likely successor were kicked out of the sport just two months before 209 member federations elect a new leader.

Platini, a FIFA vice president whose bid to succeed Blatter on Feb. 26 now looks over, described the proceedings as a "true mockery."

Their offences were judged to be conflict of interest and disloyalty to FIFA. They avoided life bans because corruption was not proven.

Platini's lawyer, Thibaud d'Ales, told The Associated Press it came as no surprise that the corruption charge had been dropped.

"They used it with the sole purpose of dirtying Michel Platini, although they knew from the start it was an untenable argument," D'Ales said.

Guilty verdicts were expected. So were the subsequent denials of wrongdoing and promises of urgent appeals to FIFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Blatter's defiant display was a bonus for international media summoned to FIFA's former headquarters, just hundreds of meters (yards) from the new building where he spent eight hours with four ethics judges last Thursday.

The choice of venue hinted at a vintage Blatter show. He did not disappoint.

Blatter invoked Nelson Mandela within a minute, pointing to the spot where the iconic South African leader had lifted the World Cup trophy 11 years ago, when his country was chosen as the host nation for the 2010 tournament.

Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech, the Nobel organization and the United Nations were also referenced in a spirited 52-minute performance as he held court with more than 100 journalists.

His last words were "I'll be back, thank you."

Blatter's trademark fighting talk was delivered while still sporting a strip of surgical tape on his right cheek after a minor medical procedure five days earlier.

Blatter made it clear he regretted his current position but declared he was innocent of any wrongdoing.

Platini was also dismissive of the ethics commission's work.

He said its proceedings, which included a hearing earlier this month that he did not attend, had been "orchestrated... by governing bodies that I know well" to tarnish him.

"I'm convinced that my fate was sealed before the Dec. 18 hearing and that this decision is just a pathetic maneuver to hide a true will of taking me out of the football world," the Frenchman said.

"My behavior has always been faultless and I'm at peace with my own conscience."

Platini said he will also file a lawsuit in a civil court to seek damages for what he has endured during the ethics commission's proceedings. In a brief statement, UEFA said it was "extremely disappointed" with the ruling and supported its leader's right to clear his name.

Platini took $2 million of FIFA money in 2011 - a payment approved by Blatter as uncontracted salary for work as a presidential adviser from 1999-2002.

In Monday's verdict, Blatter was fined 50,000 Swiss francs ($50,250) and Platini 80,000 Swiss francs ($80,400).

"Neither in his written statement nor in his personal hearing was Mr. Blatter able to demonstrate another legal basis for this payment," the judges said. "By failing to place FIFA's interests first and abstain from doing anything which could be contrary to FIFA's interests, Mr. Blatter violated his fiduciary duty to FIFA.

"His (Blatter's) assertion of an oral agreement was determined as not convincing and was rejected by the chamber."

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

There is one letter that, when added to all of the five-letter words below, can be used to form new six-letter words. Find the letter that works for all four words, add it to each word, and then rearrange each set of letters to form a new word.

TAINT

MORAL

PUMAS

SINCE

COMMON LETTER

Yesterday's Answer: OPAQUE, UPDATE, OUTBID

12.22

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Clemson's Swinney wins AP coach of year after a perfect season

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

Clemson's Dabo Swinney is The Associated Press college football coach of the year after leading the Tigers to an unbeaten regular season and the longest run as the No. 1 team in the country in school history.

Swinney received 35 of 60 votes from the AP Top 25 media panel. Iowa's Kirk Ferentz was second with 10. Michigan State's Mark Dantonio and Houston's Tom Herman each received five votes. Oklahoma's Bob Stoops received three votes and Notre Dame's Brian Kelly and Florida's Jim McElwain each had one.

"I am very honored to receive the AP National Coach of the Year award," Swinney said in a statement to the AP on Monday. "Football is a great team sport and any individual honor is a result of having a great group of players and staff. I am blessed to have student-athletes and coaches that believe in what we do. This award is a reflection of their hard work and commitment."

Swinney is the first Clemson coach to win the award, which was first handed out in 1998, and the first ACC coach since Jim Grobe from Wake Forest in 2006. Last year's winner was TCU's Gary Patterson.

Behind Swinney, the Tigers (13-0) won the Atlantic Coast Conference and enter the College Football Playoff as the top seed. Clemson will face fourth-seeded Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl semifinal on Dec. 31 for a spot in the national championship game. Clemson's last and only national title was 1981.

Doughty wins finale, WKU tops USF in Miami

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

MIAMI — Brandon Doughty's final game at Western Kentucky perfectly epitomized his career with the Hilltoppers, with a slow start followed by a record-setting finish.

Doughty threw for 461 yards and three touchdowns, and No. 25 Western Kentucky overcame an early 14-point deficit to beat South Florida 45-35 in the Miami Beach Bowl on Monday.

Doughty finished the season with 5,055 yards for the Hilltoppers (12-2), the 14th time in FBS history that a quarterback has reached the 5,000 mark. His six-year career at the school — it took him three to become the starter — ended with these numbers: 1,026 completions, 12,855 yards and 111 touchdowns.

"It's been a heck of a run," Doughty said just before hoisting the bowl trophy. "That's why you love this game."

He was probably even better than Willie Taggart thought he would be when he signed him in 2010. Taggart was Doughty's coach for his first game and the opposing coach for his last, and his Bulls (8-5) nearly stole the show from Doughty with a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns that got them to 38-35.

But Anthony Wales' second touchdown of the day, a 42-yard scamper with 5:05 left, helped seal it for the Hilltoppers. Nicholas Norris hauled in touchdown passes of 69 and 55 yards in the third quarter for Western Kentucky, and Jared Dangerfield made a highlight-caliber 26-yard TD catch over three defenders to cap a 28-point third quarter for the Hilltoppers.

Quinton Flowers rushed for two touchdowns and threw for another for USF (8-5). The Bulls were in a bowl for the first time since 2010 and rewarded Taggart with a three-year extension through 2020 earlier in the day.

"I believe in Coach T," Flowers said. "He believes in me and he believes in this team."

BOWL CAPSULES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Akron (7-5) vs. Utah State (6-6), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Line: Utah State by 6 1/2.
Series record: First meeting.
WHAT'S AT STAKE: Utah State goes for its fourth straight bowl victory and a fifth straight season with a winning record. It would be the longest streak of winning seasons since the early 1970s. Akron has appeared in one bowl game, in 2005, when the Zips lost to Memphis in the Motor City Bowl.
KEY MATCHUP: Utah State's run game vs. Akron's run defense. The Zips were third in the country at stopping the run, giving up 89.8 yards per game. Utah State's run game wasn't overpowering, but did average nearly 170 yards per game.
PLAYERS TO WATCH:
Akron: LB Jatavis Brown. Brown was the MAC defensive player of the year after finishing the year with 108 tackles, 17 1/2 tackles for loss, 10 1/2 sacks and three forced fumbles. The 10 1/2 sacks are a school record.
Utah State: QB Chuckie Keeton. After an injury-plagued career, Keeton is expected to make his final start for the Aggies. Keeton is one of two FBS quarterbacks to start five season openers in his career. He's Utah State's all-time leader in touchdown passes.

Boca Raton Bowl
No. 24 Temple (10-3, 7-1 All-American) vs. Toledo (9-2, 6-2 MAC), 6 p.m. (ESPN)
Line: Temple by 1 1/2
Series Record: Toledo, 7-3
WHAT'S AT STAKE: Both programs established themselves as serious Top 25 contenders this season with wins over Power Five conference teams and were at the top of their respective conference standings. Toledo's 35-30 loss to Western Michigan forced a three-way tie for the Mid-American Conference West Division title and the Northern Illinois advanced to the conference championship game as a result of winning the tiebreaker.
KEY MATCHUP: Temple's front seven vs. Toledo's four-pronged rushing attack. The Owls allowed just 126.3 rushing yards per game, while Toledo pounded the ball on the ground for an average of 213.2 yards per game. Watch for some explosive collisions between Rockets leading rusher Kareem Hunt (920 rushing yards and 10 touchdowns) and Temple linebacker Tyler Matakevich, whose 481 career tackles are the most of any current NCAA player.
PLAYERS TO WATCH:
Temple: QB P.J. Walker is a dual threat in the backfield and can carve up defenses with his arm and his legs. He gained 325 rushing yards on 71 attempts, including scrambles caused by opposing pass rushers, and completed 222-of-390 passes for 2,736 yards, 19 yards and seven interceptions.
Toledo: WR Alonzo Russell is a four-time All-MAC selection and became only the third receiver in school history to surpass 3,000 receiving yards (3,044). He and sophomore Cody Thompson are among senior QB Phillip Ely's favorite targets and will test the Owls secondary, especially if Matakevich and the defensive line key on the running game.

BOWL GLANCE

(Subject to Change)
Saturday
Celebration Bowl
Atlanta
NC A&T 41, Alcorn State 34
New Mexico Bowl
Albuquerque
Arizona 45, New Mexico 37
Las Vegas Bowl
Utah 35, BYU 28
Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.
Appalachian State 31, Ohio 29
Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
San Jose State 27, Georgia State 16
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana Tech 47, Arkansas State 28

Monday, Dec. 21
Miami Beach Bowl
Western Kentucky 45, South Florida 35

Tuesday, Dec. 22
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise
Akron (7-5) vs. Utah State (6-6), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Temple (10-3) vs. Toledo (9-2), 6 p.m. (ESPN)
Wednesday, Dec. 23
Poinsettia Bowl
San Diego
Northern Illinois (8-5) vs. Boise State (8-4), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
GoDaddy Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Bowling Green (10-3) vs. Georgia Southern (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Nassau
Middle Tennessee (7-5) vs. Western Michigan (7-5), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Hawaii Bowl
Honolulu
Cincinnati (7-5) vs. San Diego State (10-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 26
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall (9-3) vs. UConn (6-6), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
El Paso
Miami (8-4) vs. Washington State (8-4), 1 p.m. (CBS)
Heart of Dallas Bowl
Washington (6-6) vs. Southern Mississippi (9-4), 2:20 p.m. (ESPN)
Pinstripe Bowl
Bronx, N.Y.
Duke (7-5) vs. Indiana (6-6), 2:30 p.m. (ABC)
Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.
Virginia Tech (6-6) vs. Tulsa (6-6), 4:45 p.m. (ESPN)
Foster Farms Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
Nebraska (5-7) vs. UCLA (8-4), 8:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Dec. 28
Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.
Navy (9-2) vs. Pittsburgh (8-4), 1:30 p.m (ESPN)
Quick Lane Bowl
Detroit
Central Michigan (7-5) vs. Minnesota (5-7), 4 p.m. (ESPN2)

Tuesday, Dec. 29
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth
Air Force (8-5) vs. California (7-5), 1 p.m (ESPN)
Russell Athletic Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
North Carolina (11-2) vs. Baylor (9-3), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Arizona Bowl
Tucson
Nevada (6-6) vs. Colorado State (7-5), 5:30 p.m. (ASN)
Texas Bowl
Houston
Texas Tech (7-5) vs. LSU (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 30
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
Auburn (6-6) vs. Memphis (9-3), Noon (ESPN)
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
NC State (7-5) vs. Mississippi St. (8-4), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Louisville (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (8-4), 6 p.m (ESPN)
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Wisconsin (9-3) vs. Southern Cal (8-5), 9:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 31
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
Houston (12-1) vs. Florida State (10-2), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl (Playoff Semifinal)
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Clemson (13-0) vs. Oklahoma (11-1), 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Cotton Bowl Classic (Playoff Semifinal)
Arlington
Alabama (12-1) vs. Michigan State (12-1), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
Northwestern (10-2) vs. Tennessee (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN2)
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Michigan (9-3) vs. Florida (10-3), noon (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
Notre Dame (10-2) vs. Ohio State (11-1), noon (ESPN)
Rose Bowl
Pasadena, Calif.
Iowa (12-1) vs. Stanford (11-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Sugar Bowl
New Orleans
Oklahoma State (10-2) vs. Mississippi (9-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

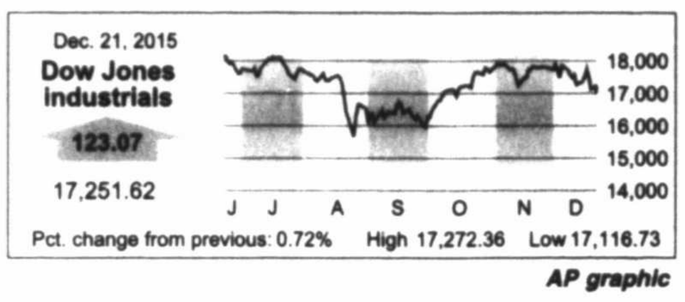
Saturday, Jan. 2
TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Penn St. (7-5) vs. Georgia (9-3), Noon (ESPN)
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Kansas St. (6-6) vs. Arkansas (7-5), 2:20 p.m. (ESPN)
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Oregon (9-3) vs. TCU (10-2), 5:45 p.m. (ESPN)
Cactus Bowl
Phoenix
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Arizona State (6-6), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 11
College Football Championship Game
Glendale, Ariz.
Orange Bowl winner vs. Cotton Bowl winner, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

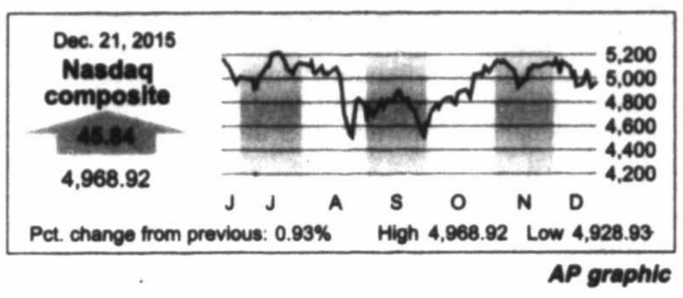
Saturday, Jan. 23
East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)
NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
National vs. American, 5 p.m. (ESPN2)
Saturday, Jan. 30
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 1:30 p.m. (NFLN)

BUSINESS & OIL

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



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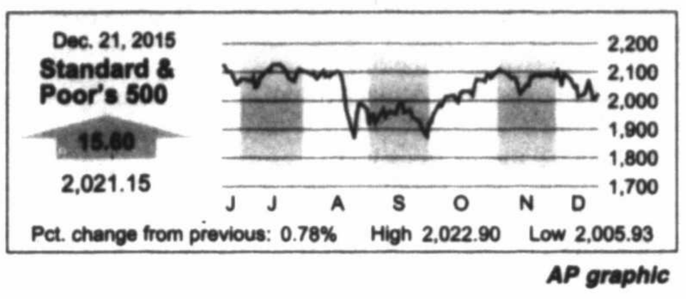


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Monday: $34.74
Previous: $34.73

POSTED

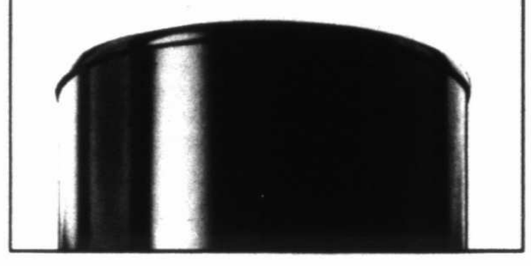
Monday: $31.00
Previous: $31.25

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Monday: $26.55
Previous: $26.80

NATURAL GAS

Monday: $1.911
Previous: $1.767



Staples says FTC rejected updated offer of Office Depot

Houston Chronicle

NEW YORK — Federal regulators rejected an offer from Staples to sell $1.25 billion in contracts, an attempt on the part of the office supply retailer to ease monopoly fears as it tries to acquire rival Office Depot.

The Federal Trade Commission sought to block the deal earlier this month believing that a tie up between the last of the major retailers in the sector would throttle competition. Regulators said that competition between the two was crucial to keep prices fair for those industries that must acquire pens, paper and other supplies.

The office supply sector has been upended by technological changes in the work place, as well as a slow economic recovery. The industry had already undergone a notable consolidation with the merger two years ago of Office Depot and OfficeMax.

Office Depot and Staples argue that competition has become even tougher since then, and that the FTC is contradicting itself because it said the office supply market was highly competitive two years ago.

Staples, based in Framingham, Massachusetts, said it is still willing to negotiate with the FTC and that it may pursue legal action to close the deal.

Shares of Staples Inc. slipped 4 cents to $9.38 in morning trading Monday. Shares of Office Depot Inc., based in Boca Raton, Florida, slipped 2 cents to $5.39.

US regulators slap BMW with $40M fine for safety violations

Associated Press

DETROIT — U.S. safety regulators have slapped German automaker BMW AG with a $40 million penalty for moving too slowly to fix Mini brand cars that failed federal crash tests.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration also said Monday BMW failed to send the agency accurate recall information.

According to a consent order signed by the company, BMW must pay $10 million in cash and spend $10 million on steps to get into compliance. Another $20 million in fines must be paid if BMW doesn't comply or commits other safety violations.

BMW agreed to take steps to make sure that the violations don't happen again, the agency said in a statement. The company said the consent order is for two years, with NHTSA having the right to extend it for a third.

It's the second fine against BMW in three years for similar problems. The agency fined BMW $3 million in 2012.

"The requirement to launch recalls and inform consumers in a timely fashion when a safety defect or noncompliance is discovered is fundamental to our system for protecting the traveling public. This is a must-do," NHTSA Administrator Mark Rosekind said in the statement.

The order resolves an investigation that began in September into whether BMW notified NHTSA within the legally required five days of finding out that 2014 and 2015 Mini Cooper models failed to meet side-impact crash standards.

According to NHTSA, a Mini two-door Hardtop Cooper failed an agency crash test in October 2014, and BMW responded by saying that the car was listed with an incorrect weight rating and would pass at the proper weight. Lighter cars face less-stringent crash tests.

BMW agreed to a recall to fix the weight rating label on the cars and to do a service campaign, which is short of a recall, to add side-impact protection.

But in July of this year, NHTSA did a second crash test at the corrected weight rating, and the Mini failed again. Then the agency found out that BMW never did the service campaign to bolster side-impact protection.

In the consent order with the agency, BMW acknowledged that it didn't do the recall quickly enough, according to NHTSA. The company also acknowledged moving too slowly to notify owners and dealers of other recalls since it was fined in 2012, NHTSA said.

The BMW penalty caps the first year in office for Rosekind, who has made the agency more aggressive in enforcing auto safety laws since taking over last December in the midst of the General Motors ignition switch scandal.

Earlier in the year, the agency fined Fiat Chrysler twice for failing to report safety violations and for failing to tell the agency about deaths and injuries involving its vehicles. The total penalty against the company is $175 million, although Fiat Chrysler can avoid much of it by complying with the agency's demands.

NHTSA also fined air bag maker Takata Corp. $70 million, with the potential to grow to $200 million, for concealing evidence that air bag inflators can explode with too much force and hit people with shrapnel.

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETF	875753	201.67	+1.65
BkofAm	633451	16.97	+.21
MktVGold	609188	13.76	+.13
iShEMkts	591541	32.40	-.25
CSVLgNG rs	546726	1.63	+.28

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AMdstrm	5.01	+.91	+22.2
TeekLNG	12.14	+1.97	+19.4
OneokPtrs	27.10	+4.27	+18.7
AlonBlue rs	4.26	+.58	+15.8
ONEOK	21.85	+2.92	+15.4

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
iSMalaisia	7.55	-2.72	-26.5
LightInBox	3.15	-1.00	-24.1
CSVInvNG	22.66	-5.52	-19.6
StoneEngy	3.22	-.54	-14.4
TrnsRty	9.00	-1.47	-14.0

DIARY

Advanced	2,048
Declined	1,055
Unchanged	101
Total issues	3,204
New Highs	28
New Lows	176
Volume	3,651,553,278

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Globalstar	39153	1.46	-.09
B2gold g	36707	1.11	-.02
iShindia bt	33978	27.33	+.10
TherapMD	32382	9.75	+.57
SynergyRs	32045	8.31	-.50

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NovaBay rs	3.59	+1.04	+40.8
StrPstrCm	20.41	+3.39	+19.9
GasNatural	7.47	+.97	+14.9
ActiniumP	2.60	+.33	+14.5
BioTime	4.15	+.39	+10.4

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
SnchzPP rs	10.59	-1.94	-15.5
TrinityPlce	5.25	-.50	-8.7
Air Inds	6.98	-.62	-8.2
Amplphi rs	4.26	-.35	-7.6
GSE Sy	2.19	-.18	-7.6

DIARY

Advanced	188
Declined	189
Unchanged	23
Total issues	400
New Highs	2
New Lows	29
Volume	91,199,350

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc	427251	107.33	+1.30
Microsoft	358433	54.83	+.70
CSVixSh rs	280861	6.73	-.72
PwShs QQQ	246420	111.05	+1.22
MicronT	219060	14.77	+.41

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Itus Cp rs	3.64	+.98	+36.8
AmtechSys	8.31	+2.06	+33.0
NetSolTch	8.36	+1.96	+30.6
Cereocr n	3.95	+.83	+26.6
VaporCp un	9.71	+2.01	+26.1

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
GluMobile	2.38	-.57	-19.3
Cnova NV	2.42	-.53	-18.0
RMR Gp n	14.05	-2.71	-16.2
CountrP rs	2.28	-.42	-15.6
JetPay	2.63	-.37	-12.2

DIARY

Advanced	1,743
Declined	1,106
Unchanged	165
Total issues	3,014
New Highs	41
New Lows	122
Volume	1,613,176,680

Stocks slide

Stocks posted moderate gains in a quiet trading day Monday, recovering part of their losses sustained late last week. Energy stocks continued to be a drag on the market, as the price of oil fell once again.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 123.07 points, or 0.7 percent, to 17,251.62. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 15.60 points, or 0.8 percent, to 2,021.15 and the Nasdaq composite rose 45.84 points, or 0.9 percent, to 4,968.92.

Investors are still working through the market impact of the Federal Reserve's decision last week to raise interest rates for the first time in nearly a decade. Markets rose in response to the Fed finally ending the uncertainty around its decision last Wednesday, but then fell sharply later in the week when traders sold shares to book profits. The Dow dropped 2.1 percent Friday.

Monday's buying was partly a recovery from last week's drop, a common response to a sharp sell-off.

Crude oil continued to decline, however, nearing levels not seen since the financial crisis. Crude oil fell 25 cents, or 0.7 percent, to $35.81 a barrel.

Gold up more than $15

Gold rose $15.60 to $1,080.60 a troy ounce, silver rose 22 cents to $14.31 a troy ounce and copper rose three cents to $2.14 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $29.75 Down 1.47

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $86.67 Down 5.30

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $3.27 Down 0.05

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $62.20 Down 3.96

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.11 Down 0.12

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $2.75 Umchanged

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $20.66 Up 0.36

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $22.33 Down 1.02

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $6.76 Down 0.25

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $14.20 Down 0.33

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.92f	37	34.09	+.49	+1.5
Abraxas	...	5	.89	-.00	-69.8
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	12.62	...	-7.7
Alcoa	12	14	9.32	+.09	-41.0
AlonUSA	.60	10	15.30	+.09	+20.8
AlpAlerMLP	1.19e	...	10.89	+.45	-37.8
Amgen	**4.00f**	**19**	**159.28**	**+.48**	...
Anadarko	**1.08**	...	**46.55**	**+.88**	**-43.6**
Apache	**1.00**	...	**42.53**	**-.16**	**-32.1**
Apple Inc	2.08	12	107.33	+1.30	-2.8
ApldMatl	**.40**	**17**	**18.52**	**+.42**	**-25.7**
Archrock	.60	22	7.30	-.07	-63.0
ATMOS	**1.68f**	**20**	**62.08**	**-.73**	**+11.4**
AutoData	2.12f	27	84.14	+.86	+.9
BP PLC	**2.40**	...	**30.13**	**-.02**	**-21.0**
BabsCCInv	1.20	...	17.42	+.24	+9.6
BakrHu	.68	...	43.76	-.16	-22.0
BcoBrad s	.44e	...	4.73	-.13	-57.5
BkofAm	.20	13	16.97	+.21	-5.1
B iPVixST	...	...	20.76	-1.01	-34.1
BarrickG	.08	21	7.47	+.24	-30.5
BasicEnSv	...	...	2.63	+.07	-62.5
BerkHa A	**...**	**181968**	**01.00**	**+2081.00**	**-12.9**
BlkHillsCp	**1.62**	**29**	**43.96**	**+.83**	**-17.1**
BlackBerry	...	...	8.72	+.11	-20.6
BrMySq	**1.52f**	**66**	**68.04**	**+.40**	**+15.3**
BrownFA	**1.36f**	**34**	**109.40**	**-1.51**	**+24.7**
BrownFB	**1.36f**	**31**	**100.52**	**+.25**	**+14.4**
CVS Health	1.70f	22	95.95	+1.09	-.4
CabotO&G	.08	48	16.24	+.75	-45.2
Cameron	...	16	61.81	+.49	+23.7
Caterpillar	3.08	13	65.24	+.13	-28.7
Celestic g	...	13	10.71	-.01	-6.8
CntryLink	2.16	18	25.16	+.05	-36.4
ChesEng	...	...	4.06	+.01	-79.3
Chevron	**4.28**	**19**	**89.24**	**-.57**	**-20.4**
Chicos	.31	48	10.95	-.25	-32.4
Cimarex	.64	...	86.18	-4.64	-18.7
Cisco	.84	14	26.84	+.37	-3.6
Citigroup	.20	12	51.79	+.58	-4.3
ClayEng	**...**	**...**	**29.75**	**-1.47**	**-83.4**
CocaCola	**1.32**	**27**	**42.78**	**+.28**	**+1.3**
ColgPalm	**1.52**	**24**	**65.99**	**+.41**	**-4.8**
Comcast	1.00	18	58.46	+.06	-2.7
ConAgra	**1.00**	**27**	**40.99**	**+.40**	**+13.0**
ConchoRes	**...**	**52**	**86.67**	**-5.30**	**-13.1**
ConocoPhil	**2.96**	**50**	**45.10**	**-.83**	**-34.7**
ContlResCs	...	14	20.00	-2.71	-47.9
CrackerB	4.40a	18	126.92	+2.63	-9.8
CSVLgNG rs	...	...	1.63	+.28	-91.8
CSVLgCrd rs	...	...	3.64	-.03	-92.6
CSVelIVST	...	...	25.17	+1.07	-19.2
CSVixSh rs	...	...	6.73	-.72	-75.6
CrosTim	**1.55e**	**8**	**12.55**	**-.13**	**-27.5**
DCP Mid	3.12	12	21.56	+.51	-52.5
DTE	2.92f	15	78.66	-.22	-8.9
Dataram	...	...	.73	-.01	-56.9
DenburyR	...	...	1.89	-.01	-76.8
DevonE	**.96**	**...**	**28.83**	**+.16**	**-52.9**
Disney	**1.42f**	**21**	**106.59**	**-1.13**	**+13.2**
DowChm	**1.84f**	**13**	**50.97**	**+1.34**	**+11.8**
EOG Resc	**.67**	**...**	**70.25**	**-1.18**	**-23.7**
EmpDist	**1.04**	**21**	**27.76**	**+.58**	**-4.7**
Energen	.08	...	41.71	-2.29	-34.6
EgyTrEq s	1.14f	13	11.77	+.58	-59.0
EngyTsfr	4.22f	89	28.41	+.21	-58.3
EnPro	**.80**	**...**	**43.43**	**-.15**	**-30.8**
EntProdPt	1.54f	19	24.22	+.79	-32.9
Ericsson	.39e	...	9.51	+.38	-21.4
ExxonMbl	**2.92**	**16**	**77.26**	**-.02**	**-16.4**
Facebook	...	...	104.77	+.73	+34.3
FordM	.60	12	13.73	-.07	-11.4
FreeSea hrs	...	...	.02	+.00	-99.9
FrptMcM	...	...	6.24	+.03	-73.3
FrontierCm	.42	...	4.64	...	-30.4
GATX	**1.52**	**8**	**39.87**	**-.39**	**-30.7**
GeoMeuRT	**.94e**	**...**	**7.50**	**+.12**	**-25.1**
GMxy	**1.15e**	**...**	**31.03**	**+.19**	**-11.3**
GenElec	**.92**	**...**	**30.40**	**+.12**	**+20.3**
GlPlainEn	**1.00f**	**20**	**28.89**	**-.04**	**-5.4**
HP Inc	.50	...	11.43	-.08	-37.3
HalconRes	...	...	.27	...	-84.8
HalliBrtn	**.72**	**41**	**33.40**	**-.04**	**-15.1**
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	20.74	-.48	-43.3
iShJapan	.13e	...	12.05	+.01	+7.2
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	35.77	-.41	-14.1
iShEMkts	.84e	...	32.40	-.25	-17.5
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	58.11	-.24	-4.5
iShBxHYB	4.78	...	79.28	-.25	-11.5
iShR2K	1.68e	...	112.32	+.84	-8.1
Intel	**.96**	**15**	**34.24**	**+.38**	**-5.6**
InterDig	.80	17	47.26	+.45	-10.6
ItauUnibH	.45e	...	6.49	-.18	-45.1
JPMorgCh	1.76	12	65.54	+1.14	+5.4
JohnJn	**3.00**	**18**	**101.58**	**-.37**	**-2.9**
JnprNtwk	.40	...	27.25	-1.43	+22.1
Keycorp	.30	12	12.84	+.17	-7.6
KimbClk	**3.52**	**66**	**124.92**	**+1.38**	**+8.1**
KindMorg	.50m	29	15.14	...	-64.2
LegacyRes	.60m	...	1.11	-.12	-90.3
Lubys	**...**	**...**	**4.29**	**+.04**	**-5.7**
MagneGas	...	...	1.50	-.38	+120.6
MarathnO	.20m	...	12.52	+.05	-55.7
MktVGold	.12e	...	13.76	+.13	-25.1
McDnlds	3.56f	25	117.69	+1.03	+25.6
Merck	1.84f	14	51.87	+.23	-8.7
MerMlMed	**...**	**31**	**18.74**	**-.19**	**+8.1**
MexcoEn	...	...	2.75	...	-49.4
MicronT	...	6	14.77	+.41	-57.8
Microsoft	1.44	37	54.83	+.70	+18.0
NRG Egy	.58	...	11.07	+.70	-58.9
Nabors	.24	...	7.73	-.14	-40.4
NatGrid	**3.35e**	**...**	**68.54**	**+.30**	**-3.0**
NOVarco	1.84	9	33.90	+.53	-48.3
NokiaCp	.16e	...	7.09	+.25	-9.8
NvMAd	**.79e**	**...**	**13.60**	**...**	**-.4**
NvPBII	**.78e**	**...**	**13.53**	**+.03**	**-3.1**
NuvPI	**.82e**	**...**	**13.89**	**+.02**	**...**
NSTPIS	**.85e**	**...**	**14.40**	**+.01**	**+1.1**
NTXCI	**.65**	**...**	**14.04**	**+.08**	**-2.9**
OasisPet	...	3	6.45	-.70	-61.0
OceanPet	**3.00**	**29**	**66.14**	**+.18**	**-18.0**
Oracle	.60	17	36.42	+.07	-19.0
ParTech	**...**	**...**	**6.83**	**+.46**	**+6.0**
ParkDrl	**...**	**...**	**1.90**	**+.01**	**-38.1**
PetroUTI	**.40**	**...**	**14.12**	**+.08**	**-14.9**
PennaRE	**.84**	**...**	**21.34**	**+.08**	**-6.0**
Pmrian	.39e	12	5.12	+.06	-46.4
Petrobras	...	...	4.11	-.24	-43.7
Pfizer	**1.20f**	**34**	**32.49**	**+.47**	**+4.2**
PlxNtl	**.08**	**22**	**115.71**	**-5.57**	**-22.3**
PlainsAAP	**2.00f**	**13**	**21.67**	**+1.79**	**-27.5**
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	111.05	+1.22	+7.6
Praxair	**2.96**	**19**	**102.12**	**+.60**	**-21.2**
PrmEgy	**...**	**25**	**53.00**	**-.75**	**-27.1**
PUVixST rs	...	...	30.76	-3.19	-75.5
ProctGam	**2.65**	**28**	**78.95**	**+.82**	**-13.3**
Qualcom	1.92	15	48.76	+1.33	-34.4
RangeRs	.16	13	21.41	+.08	-59.9
RegionsFn	.24	14	9.39	+.04	-11.1
Rowan	.40	...	17.02	-.14	-27.0
RoyDShllA	3.76	10	43.51	-.20	-35.0
SpdrDJIA	3.90e	...	172.25	+1.25	-3.2
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	201.67	+1.65	-1.9
SpdrLehHY	2.30	...	33.56	-.03	-13.1
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	28.64	-.30	-40.2
SabnR	3.10e	8	25.54	-.38	-28.6
SanderFm	**.88e**	**8**	**76.41**	**+.08**	**-9.1**
SandRidge	**...**	**...**	**.22**	**-.01**	**-88.0**
Schlmbrg	2.00	23	67.95	+.61	-20.4
SiriusXM	...	40	4.00	+.01	+14.3
Smucker	2.68	35	123.00	+1.45	+21.8
SwstnEngy	...	...	5.87	+.33	-78.5
SP Engy	1.98e	...	58.65	+.06	-25.7
SPDR Fncl	.44e	...	23.53	+.23	-4.9
SunEdison	...	...	6.74	+.23	-65.5
SunocoLog	1.83f	...	22.47	+.40	-46.2
TelefEsp	**1.03e**	**...**	**10.96**	**-.19**	**-22.9**
Tesoro	2.00	8	105.18	+.86	+41.5
3M Co	4.10	19	147.48	+.56	-10.2
Torchmark	**.54**	**13**	**55.76**	**+.40**	**+2.9**
TriContl	**.81e**	**...**	**19.67**	**+.10**	**-8.1**
Twitter	...	...	22.14	-.85	-38.3
TylerTech	**...**	**86**	**177.05**	**+.31**	**+61.8**
UBSI	**1.32f**	**19**	**37.34**	**+.20**	**-.3**
US OilFd	...	...	10.66	...	-47.6
USSteel	.20	...	8.42	+.41	-68.5
Vale SA	.29e	...	3.07	-.13	-62.5
Vale SA pf	.29e	...	2.43	-.09	-66.5
ValeroE	2.00f	7	71.11	+1.08	+43.7
VangEmg	1.10e	...	32.71	+.07	-18.3
VangFTSE	1.10e	...	36.37	+.01	-4.0
VulcanM	**.40**	**72**	**95.39**	**+1.55**	**+45.1**
WEC Engy	1.98f	19	50.39	+.15	-4.5
WalgBoots	**1.44**	**26**	**84.89**	**+2.36**	**+11.4**
WeathfIntl	...	...	7.85	-.03	-31.4
WellsFargo	**1.50**	**13**	**54.02**	**+.23**	**-1.5**
WstnRefin	1.52f	7	37.53	+.49	-.7
WhitingPet	...	...	8.31	-.78	-74.6
WmsCos	**2.56**	**63**	**22.00**	**+.46**	**-51.0**
XcelEngy	**1.28**	**18**	**35.41**	**-.19**	**-1.4**
Xerox	**.28**	**36**	**10.30**	**+.15**	**-25.7**
Yamana g	.06	...	1.89	+.08	-53.0
Zynga	...	...	2.62	-.03	-1.7

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	17,251.62	+123.07	+.72	-3.21	-3.94
9,257.44	7,361.11	Dow Jones Transportation	7,415.39	+51.35	+.70	-18.87	-18.35
657.17	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	567.45	-.49	-.09	-8.19	-7.84
11,254.87	9,509.59	NYSE Composite	10,023.03	+55.39	+.56	-7.53	-8.21
5,231.94	4,292.14	Nasdaq Composite	4,968.92	+45.84	+.93	+4.02	+3.92
2,134.72	1,867.01	S&P 500	2,021.15	+15.60	+.78	-1.83	-2.76
1,561.26	1,344.80	S&P Midcap	1,353.90	+8.60	+.63	-4.72	-4.80
22,537.15	19,619.26	Wilshire 5000	20,911.75	+166.84	+.79	-3.50	-4.12
1,296.00	1,078.83	Russell 2000	1,127.74	+6.74	+.60	-6.39	-6.17

TODAY'S COMICS SPONSORED BY

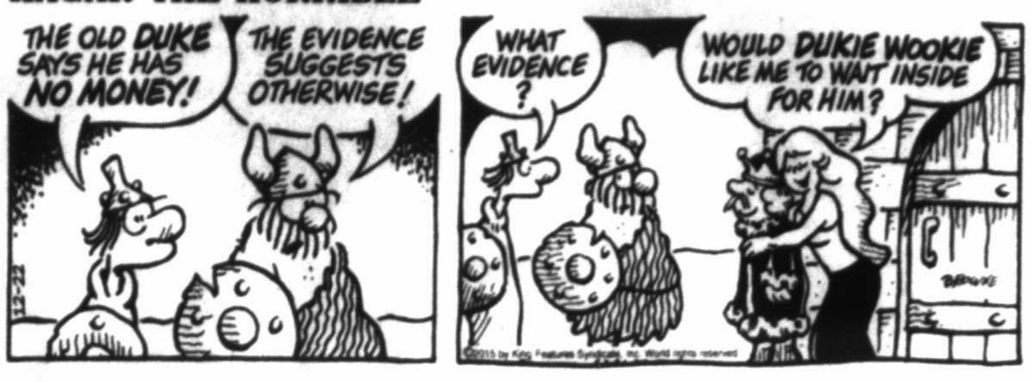
HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
432-522-1117
QUALITY, INTEGRITY, EXPERIENCE
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!!!

The wiseman built his house on a rock
Then he hired Hartman to roof it!!!
All Types of Roof and Roof repair • Free Estimates
Commercial • Residential
www.HartmanRoofing.com

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
Mention this ad. and receive $300.00 off a full roofing job or $50.00 off any repair of $200,00 or more

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN

LUANN

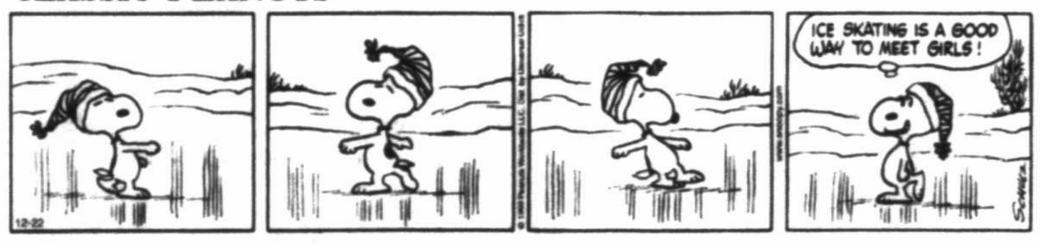
BLONDIE

MARY WORTH

BEETLE BAILEY

ZITS

CLASSIC PEANUTS



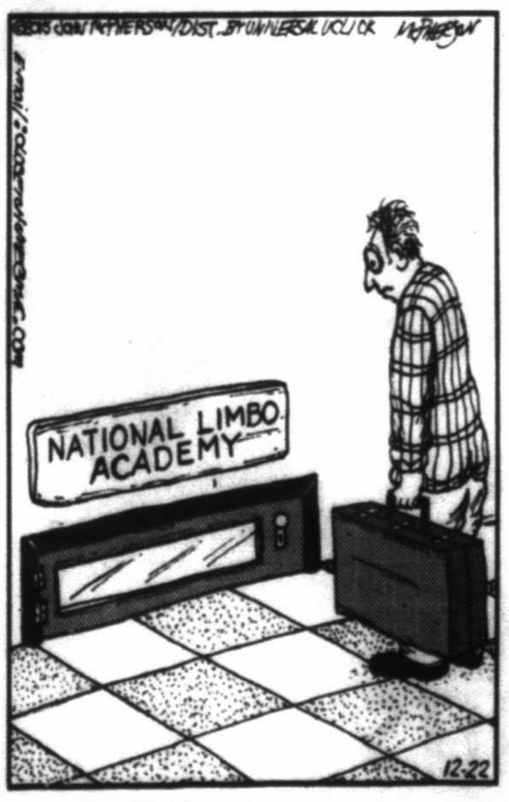
BABY BLUES

SHOE

MUTTS

GARFIELD

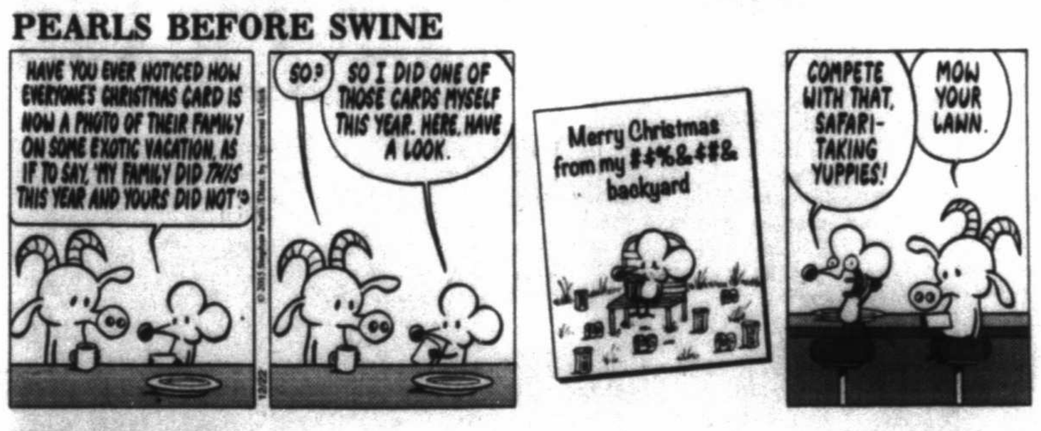
CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE

"I CAME OVER TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR MARBLES. DAD SAYS YOU DON'T HAVE 'EM ALL."

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

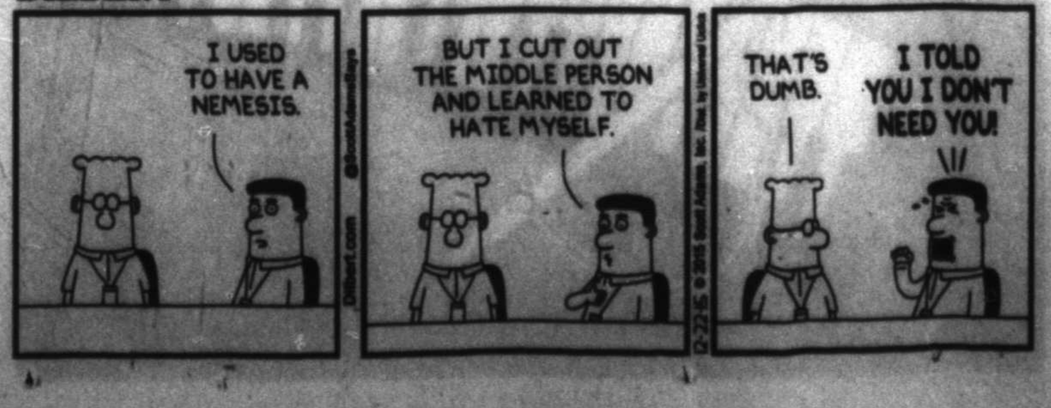
LOCKHORNS

"A FRUITCAKE IS THE PERFECT GIFT IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR REVENGE."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"'Twas the night before the night before the night before Christmas..."

DILBERT



20 acres of

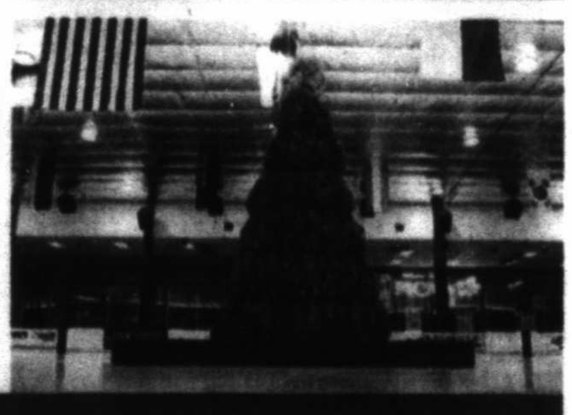
CHRISTMAS Wonderland

FIND SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Over 100 Merchants Under One Roof

EXTENDED MALL HOURS

TUESDAY DEC 22 | 9AM-10PM



MUSIC CITY MALL

SIGHTS

SOUNDS

SAVINGS

MUSIC CITY MALL

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm -4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@thearstop.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@thearstop.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

HEALTHCARE

Available Positions

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705

Desert Gardens located in Midland, Texas is currently seeking staff to fill the following Position:

- **Dishwasher**

Apply in person.

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS

Seeking caring and dependable people to work in the homes of elderly and disabled clients. Will assist with preparing meals, shopping, personal care, errands, light housekeeping, and other assigned duties. We offer flexible day, evening, and weekend shifts. Must be at least 18 years of age with a clean criminal background. MUST have reliable transportation. No certifications or prior experience required. Fax Resume referencing **Ad#16898** to **432-332-1640.** For an application, call **432-332-4025.** Apply online at **www.gentiva.com/careers.** Or apply in-person at **619 N. Grant Avenue, Suite 110, Odessa, Texas 79761.** E.O.E / M.F.D.V.

GENTIVA HEALTH CARE

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Part Time Night Audit

Holiday Inn Express
5309 N. Loop 250 W.
Midland, TX. 79707

Now hiring Part Time Night Audit. Professional appearance required. Will train the right person. Serious inquiries only. Apply in person only. No phone calls. Competitive pay.

OTHER JOBS

Maintenance Tech

Maintenance Tech needed full time with benefits. Must pass background and drug check. Apply in person at The Azure Apartments, 1201 Albert Ave. (located on South Lamesa) call for directions. 432-262-3991.

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or jhouston@mrt.com. No phone calls please.

Resident Guards

Looking for a second retirement? Company funded, 100% vested in as little as 6 years. Please apply online at www.dlamax.com or in person at 24 W Industrial Loop, Midland, TX. Residential re-entry center wants Resident Guards for immediate openings. Must have high integrity and background checks conducted.

Security Guards

Hiring Armed and Unarmed Guards
Email Resume to: info@legacyusagroup.com or call: 855-615-7675

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Five Guys Burgers & Fries - All Crew Members

Apply for the opportunity to work for the Best Burgers and Fries Restaurant in Midland. **Five Guys Burgers and Fries** is now accepting applications (and interviewing) for all crew postions. Starting pay $10.00 per hour. Potential for weekly secret shopper bonuses based on team performance. Vacation earned benefits available, free meals, free uniforms. No drive-thru, No breakfast. Flexible hours - 11:00am - 10:00pm. Please stop by to pick up an application at New Location: The Commons North Park (East of Chipotle, in front of Sketchers) 2816 W Loop 250 N., Unit 300 OR Send your resumes to fiveguysmidland@gmail.com. Be sure to include your telephone number!

RETAIL JOBS

Layout & Display Position

Thrift Store,seeking desirable and experienced individual to layout and display merchandise at two locations. One person will handle both stores. Please call 432-682-2514 with personal information and to schedule an interview. Salary determined by experience.

SALES JOBS

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar//punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

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Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or jhouston@mrt.com. No phone calls please.

SKILLED LABOR

Oil Field Coating Applicator, Poly Pipe & Water Transfer

Blackline Oil Field Services is now hiring! Requirements for positions: High School diploma/equivalent, reliable transportation, Safeland training, speak fluent English, quick learner, detailed oriented, punctual, CDL class A license/permit and medical card preferred. Position 1: Poly Pipe, HDPE liner, and pipeline experience construction a must. Position 2: Experience in oilfield coatings application preferred.

Please submit resumes to: jobs@blacklineofs.com

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

CDL Drivers

Horizon Transportation FT

Now hiring Class A CDL Drivers, clean driving record is required. Must pass a criminal background check and DOT drug test. Apply in person at 3913 FM 715, Midland, Texas 79706

Drivers Transport

Griffin Transportation
Local Positions - Class A CDL/ Hazmat, 2 yrs exp. (tanker preferred), good MVR, Full Benefit Package. Call 806 744-2067 Ask for the Transportation Dept. Fax 806 785-4182 Day & Night Shifts Available

Shop Helper/Yard Hand

Horizon Transportation FT

Seeking Shop Helper/Yard Hand. Competitive wages and excellent benefits. Please call 432-699-4808

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

SPOOLERS

JW Enterprise is looking for **Spoolers** with Class A CDL with Air Brake Endorsement. Great benefits and competitive wages, also on the job training available. It's a great place to work with a family-like atmosphere. Call Javius at 432-664-3408 or the office at 432-458-3675 for more information.

Winch Truck Drivers

Phoenix Release Services now has openings for Winch truck drivers. Must have Class A CDL in good standing. Previous Winch Truck experience is preferred. Competitive pay and benefits offered. Please apply in person at 8310 W. I-20 in Midland or call 432-563-9800.

The Bottom Line

Newspaper delivers the consumers that advertisers most want to reach - those with higher household incomes, more education and more job responsibility. Nationally, more than 54 million newspapers are sold daily, with an average of 2.3 readers per copy. And on Sunday, more than 56 million newspapers are sold, with an average of 2.5 readers per copy. That's mass coverage!

So put your messages where they will be seen, read, clipped and acted upon - in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

Newspaper sections provide advertisers with unique targeting opportunities

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt★com
201 EAST ILLINOIS AVENUE
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701
4326825311

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal & Public Notices

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the State's Self-Storage Facility Lien Law, on January 5,2015 at 10:00 AM. CubeSmart General Managers, state that the following property is being sold to satisfy the landlord's lien and will sell at www.storagetreasures.com.
3111 Calders Blvd, Midland, TX 79705
Whitney Curry, Ernest Montoya
2504 N Loop 250 W, Midland TX. 79707
Martin Romo, Samantha Harp
5306 N Grandview Ave, Odessa, TX 79762
Brittany Hernandez, Damon Bars, Beau Hughes, Tiffany Tilghman, Holly Valcik, Ryan Satepauhoodle, Frank Reville, Michelle Morgan, Michelle Angel Morgan, Angel Morgan.
3125 Kermit Hwy, Odessa, TX 79764
Jason Grady, Jesus Mercado, Michael Ming, Kristi Pool - Roe, Gina Guzman, Tony Chapa, Tony - Emilio Chapa, Jeney Boone, Lachrisha Brown, Gina Gonzales, Lisa Dyer, Diana Gonzales, Ryan Lambert, Roger McDonald, Melissa McDonald,Tracy Trout

General Announcements

BETTER READ
Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ.

THANK YOU
SAINT EXPEDITE
for your
intercession.

Lost & Found

FOUND. PUPPY. MUSEUM DISTRICT. M STREET. CALL TO DESCRIBE. 432-684-7736

ATTN: READERS
Be advised that the Midland Reporter-Telegram does not knowingly accept advertising for products or services that violate state or federal laws. Please report violations to the City of Midland Code Enforcement Office 688-1210, for additional information.

FOUND SATURDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 19TH. **SMALL PARROTT**. WEST GOLF CORSE ROAD. CALL TO IDENTIFY 432-559-8738.

LOOK FOR ENTRY FORMS EVERY SUNDAY AND MONDAY
Sponsored By:
Domino's
JOIN OUR WINNING TEAM
POWER POINTS
THE ULTIMATE FOOTBALL CONTEST
WIN $17,000

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

								1
3	9					7	2	
	8	5				3		
		8	3		1			2
9				4				7
7			9		8	5		
		4				6	5	
	3	7					9	8
6								

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit ***www.sudoku.org.uk***

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

2	5	7	4	1	8	3	9	6
4	8	6	9	2	3	5	1	7
3	9	1	6	7	5	8	2	4
9	4	5	7	8	6	2	3	1
6	7	2	3	5	1	4	8	9
8	1	3	2	9	4	6	7	5
1	2	4	8	6	7	9	5	3
5	3	9	1	4	2	7	6	8
7	6	8	5	3	9	1	4	2

12/22/15

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Attention Readers

In observance of Christmas Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed Friday, December 25th, 2015

Advertising Deadlines

Classified Word Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Fri. Dec 25th	Thurs., Dec 24, 10am
Sat., Dec 26th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon
Sun., Dec 27th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon
Mon., Dec 28th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon

Classified Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Thurs., Dec 24th	Tues., Dec 22, 5pm
Fri. Dec 25th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sat., Dec 26th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Mon., Dec 28th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm

Retail Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Thurs., Dec 24th	Tues., Dec 22, 5pm
Fri. Dec 25th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sat., Dec 26th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Mon., Dec 28th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Mon., Dec 21, 5pm
(Oil Report\West Texas Living)	

CIRCULATION HOURS
Customer Service calls will be taken
Friday, December 25th from 7 AM-11 AM only
We will re-open Monday, Dec. 28th for regular business hours.

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

FORD 1997 Taurus, good condition, new tires & battery, asking $1800. Call 432-528-1029

LEXUS 1995 SC400 135k miles, good tires, new battery, $2,800 OBO. 238-8480

TOYOTA 2005 Avalon XLS Gray w/ Gray leather, 120k miles, very good cond., $7,000 firm. Call Craig 432-889-0816

Antique & Vintage

86 Camaro IROC-Z T-tops. As seen on E-bay. $5,000. 432-559-0692.

Pickup Trucks

2001 GMC 2500 HD 4x4 Crew Cab 8.1L Gas, 86k mi, 6" lift, off road tires. $12,500 OBO. 432-413-0994.

FORD, 2008 Ranger, $11,000. 53,500 miles, dark grey, excellent condition, bed liner & locked cover, clean title. Call or text Mike 432-664-6924.

Vans & Minivans

DODGE 2007 Caravan $1000 runs good needs work call 432-813-0031

4WD & SUV

2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER, fully loaded. Heated leather seats, sun roof, chrome wheels. 90,628 miles. Asking 11,500 OBO. Please call 432-413-3792.

Motorcycles

95' SPORTSTER in good condition, custom paint, many extras, must see! 432-234-3950 or 432-684-8502.

HARLEY XLHS 2008 Roadglide garage kept, runs great. $13,500. Will text pictures. Call 432-894-4692 or 432-556-6029

RVs

RV SPACES for rent. $500 month, utilities, furnished. Call 432-894-8234.

Merchandise

Free Stuff

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Furniture

TEAK DINING room set, table with 6 chairs, china cabinet with sliding glass doors, and buffet. Excellent condition. $9,500. Call Chip 432-638-8372

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

Miscellaneous for Sale

► NEW TODAY! ◄
19" TV for $20. 20" rims & tires for $500. Chandelier $20. Call 432-813-9211.

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES
3904 W Hwy 80 • Midland TX 79706
432-697-6447 • kensrv.com
LARGEST SELECTION OF USED TRAILERS IN THE BASIN
TRY US ONCE YOU'LL BE BACK
TOY HAULERS FIFTH WHEEL GO RVing BUMPER PULLS MOTORHOMES
8:30-5:30 Mon.-Fri. • 9-3 Sat.

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, SecurCare Self Storage will hold a Public Sale of Property to satisfy landlord's lien. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Property must be removed immediately and space broom swept. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw property from a sale.

January 06, 2016 starting at 10:00 a.m. at SecurCare Self Storage #0215 at 1010 N Loop W Midland, Texas 79703 432-697-5932 and then proceeding with Auction at Store #0216 at 3233 East Highway 80 Odessa, Texas 79761 432-337-0271.

- **Hugo Rodriquez appliances, entertainment shelf, misc items.**
- **Elena Nickerson furniture, toys, bedding, misc items.**
- **Haley B. Blanton bedding, shelf, totes misc items**
- **Scott A. Smith microwave, vacuum, fan, misc items**
- **Tommy Scott lawn chairs, yard tools, suit case misc items.**
- **Erryca Shavon Sanders kennel cage, mirror, misc items**
- **Erryca Shavon Sanders appliances, furniture, misc items.**
- **Samuel Ornelas chair**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Notice is hereby given that Metro Self Storage Midland will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a landlord's lien (pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Statutes - Property Code). The sale will take place at 315 N. Midland Dr. Midland, Texas 79703 on Jan. 8, 2016 at 10:00am. The sale will be conducted by Legacy Auction Services LLC (#16850) on behalf of the facility's management. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 10% buyers premium will be charged. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. No one under the age of 16 years old is permitted. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. Property includes the storage unit contents belonging to the following tenants:

B015-Paul Dominquez (Table, Chairs & Misc)
E010-Noel Romero (Refridgerator & Misc)
K011-Mario Villarreal (Dresser & Freezer)
O011-David Muniz (Construction Tools)
S012-Patricia Saunders (Misc)
U013-Nicole M. Reyes (Misc)
W007-Raymond Sanchez (Couch, Dryer & Misc)

Musical Instruments

FREE voice & piano lessons. Call Ronald Thomas 432-695-4341

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

► NEW TODAY! ◄
WEST TEXAS WOOD $80 minimum, split, stacked and delivered. Call Will and make a deal. 432-741-2491.

Industrial Products & Supplies

Agriculture & Farm Equipment, Parts & Supplies

2008 PJ 40' Dovetail-dual- tandem gooseneck trailer. Like new. 432-254-9209

Animals & Pets

Pets

FULL AKC ENGLISH BULLDOG. 2 females, 1 male. 5 rounds shots up to date. More info 432-238-4365.

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 633-4364.

Real Estate Rentals & Sales

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

2901 W ILLINOIS, 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with garage. $1,150 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4409 CROCKETT Apt. A. 2bed/1bath. $900 mo, $900 dep. 432-978-2074.

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

ALL BILLS PAID INCLUDING EXTENDED BASIC CABLE VILLA CHATEAU APTS. 432-694-1112

MIDLAND VILLAGE APARTMENTS, single story, nevér an upstairs neighbor. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms 432-683-9726.

DUPLEX FOR LEASE. 3105 Mark Lane 2bed/2bath/2car garage/ fireplace. $1,250 mo. $1,000 deposit. No Pets, 432-557-5557.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

2811 MOSS
Large 4 bed 3 bath, 2 car garage. Emerson/Goddard/ MHS. $2,350 UP Group 689-2934

SPECIAL!!!
2 BD/1 & 1/2 baths. Townhouse, no pets, utility room with washer & dryer $1,250 per month, $1,000 deposit. Small front & back yards. 432-699-4420 or 432-553-8397

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, 1 living room, kitchen, dining room. Call for more information 432-631-9629

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

312 WILLOWWOOD, 3 bedroom 2 bath, nicely remodeled. Non smoking no pets. $1,300 monthly. Call 432-683-2243

3515 STANOLIND, nice 3 BD/2BA, 2car garage, credit check required, non-smoker. $1800 dep, $1800 rent. 432-631-6914

3 BEDROOM 2 bath, double garage, $2,000 monthly $2,0000 deposit. $35 application fee. No pets. Call 432-813-6528.

402-B W. Pine, 3 bedroom 2 bath duplex, all tile floors, $1,250 month $1,250 deposit. Pets permitted with deposit. Background & credit check required. 12 month lease minimum. 432-557-0018

4412 TANNER 3bed/2bath, double garage. $1,500 mo, $1,500 dep. 432-978-2074.

FOR LEASE: 2608 Delano Ave. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, fenced, refrigerator, stove, no smoking, no pets, background/credit check, verification of employment, $1,000 security deposit $1,000/ month. Available now. 432-222-0794 after 6pm. Serious inquiries only.

Large 3 BEDROOM 2 bath, 2 car garage near Wadley Barron Park. $1,600 monthly, $800 deposit. Please call 432-230-9667.

LOVELY 3 bedroom 2 bath, brick home with fireplace, attached garage & large backyard in great neighborhood. Has refrigerator & stove. $1,300 deposit, $1,500 month for a years lease. 1908 Woodlawn near downtown. 903-385-2017 for showing appointment.

NICE HOMES remodeled with garage, great neighborhood. Northwest Midland, 3 bed 2 bath and larger. From $1,500 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

2403 METZ Place: 5 bd, 3 1/2 bath, 2 lvg. areas, dining room and office. Great location close to Emerson Elementary and Goddard Jr. High. For more info please call 432-352-1218

3527 GULF, 3BD/2BA, Newly Remodeled, fireplace, 2000+ sf. Large backyard. $219,000. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf. 4BD/3BA., fireplace. Water well. Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4500 SQ. ft. spec home on 20 acres off 349 (still under construction). Qualified buyers only by appointment. Call Eric 432-934-6196 for home built your way.

5221 CANADIAN Beautiful 4 bedroom 2 bath, 2 living areas, large kitchen, computer room & laundry room. $227K. Open house 2-4 every Sunday or call for an appointment. 432-683-2243

5225 Brazzos Ave, Midland. 3/2. Sequestered master bedroom. Breakfast nook. Dining room. 2 car garage. Central heat and air. Kids swing set. Good school district. Home warranty for 1 yr. $229K. Call Robert anytime 4328533009.

802 SHEA LANE Spotless home, 3 bed / 2 bath, 2 car garage, tile/carpet, garden tub, fenced backyard, all appliances. Legends Park, no pets, no smoking. $2275/mo. 432-638-0138.

♣ EXECUTIVE HOME FOR SALE ♣
4 bed, 3 bath, approximately 2800 sq. ft. Fully furnished. $349,000. Available now. Realtors welcome. 432-685-7041

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

OLD MIDLAND HOME
For sale, by owner. Approximately 3600 sq. ft. 4 bedroom 4 bath With guest house. Qualified buyers only. $549,000. Realtors welcome. 432-685-7041

REDUCED
901 Canyon Drive 2 bed/1 bath with garage. Recent remodel, fenced yard, all appliances, central air & heat. Pet requires adittional fees. Application required, $1,000 mo/ $1,000 deposit. 432-288-2939.

Remodeled 3 & 4 bedroom homes. Northwest Midland. Possible financing. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Lots & Land

Acreage

2.5 ACRES in Saddle Club Ranch Estates. Trenton Dr. 432-254-9209

FOR SALE or lease one acre water, electric. Nine RV spaces, metal building 40'x30'x12 1/2 ft high, over head door with remote, 18'x10' high, 36" walk in door all finished & insulated. Excellent location, WCR 40, 1/8 mile from Hwy 1788 N., Gardendale, Midland, TX. Sell $175,000 or lease $5,000mo. 480-729-9641.

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres near Snyder, Tx. Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

Commercial

Commercial Building For Lease
13,500sq/ft
Fenced/Paved Yard
Midland, Texas
$8,500/month
432-664-7764

COMMERCIAL YARD FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
ELECTRIC GATE
$2200/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
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FOR LEASE /Build to Suit
Commercial shop with 5 acre yard East of Midland. 432-664-7764 432-934-7777

FOR LEASE
Retail, Office Spaces. 2203 "B" N. Big Spring, 2600 sq. ft. 2209 N. Big Spring, 48' x 75'..Call Realtor Matt Pillado 800-672-3911 or 432-238-4594

"MAN CAVE"
New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft starting at $650 RV's/cars/industrial ask for Don 352-2067.

NOW LEASING
• Office/Warehouses •
• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards •
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057

LARGE METAL building with apartment built-in. A little over an acre of land. Was used as church but can be anything. Call 432-214-6724 or 432-215-8670

NEW CONSTRUCTION
5/10/20/50 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. building with Bridge Cranes/ wash bays. Ask for Don. 583-1610 or 352-2067.

Mobile & Modular Homes

Mobile Homes for Rent

3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath mobile home. December rent $200. $950 deposit. $950/mo with approved credit. 432-570-8555.

Who's Who For Service

What a GREAT place to advertise your business!

Call 682-6222 for details.

Services & Professionals

Accounting & Financial

APPLIANCE REPAIR
REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers.
Free Service Call with Repair.
Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices.
M&M Appliances
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Cleaning Services

Home Cleaning

DON'T GET your tinsel in a tangle over having a clean house for the holidays! Call me, budget friendly, dependable, excellent references. 934-3569

HOUSEKEEPING 17 years experience. References available. Call 432-553-0928.

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WINDOWS PLUS + Serving Midlanders since 1994. Residential, Commercial. 432-682-9322.

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A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✓Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

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A D V A N C E EXCAVATING. Specializing in caliche yards, paving, parking lot maintenance & repair, top soil, welding, concrete, septic systems & demolition. No job too large or too small! (432) 570-1704 or (432) 634-3800.

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Christmas Special 30% off all Sealer Applications
MASONRY WORKS
Mortar Replacement, Brick Replacement & Commercial Grade Sealer. Free Estimates
432-425-3111

Home Services & Home Improvement

Cabinetry & Finishing

CUSTOM KITCHEN Cabinets, Formica Countertops, Beveled Edges. References. Work Guaranteed. Free Estimates. Call Luis, 432-664-0224.

Carpet & Flooring

INSTALLS & Repairs Carpet, Tile, Wood, Paint, Drywall, Electrical, Plumbing and Much More. Cleaning houses & apartments 432-924-3260.

Concrete

CABALLERO MASONRY. Brick/block/stone, stucco, driveways, sidewalks, wood fences. Insurance. Bonded. Residential & Commercial. Free estimates. 432-631-8781

FOR ALL your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny ● 432-894-0702

JS Concrete
Slabs,curbs,driveways, patios, Stamp concrete. Free Estimates. Bonded & Insured. Juan Sanchez, owner. 432-413-0924

Contractors & Builders

ALPHA GENERAL Construction, remodeling additions, metal and wood fencing, cabinets, stucco, roofing, painting, tile, showers, counter tops, masonry work, landscaping and hardscaping. Small jobs welcome. Call 432-813-8552.

Electrical

ALL YOUR electrical needs met. Call G&S Electric. 32 Years experience. 432-685-0859. Tecl # 22541

Home Services & Home Improvement

Fences

ABC FENCE, Native Midlander building professionally since 1979. Small jobs, repairs welcome. Gates are my specialty. Lonnie 432-638-7950

AFFORDABLE FENCE WORK. 432-269-1566

CABALLERO MASONRY. Brick/block/stone, stucco, driveways, sidewalks, wood fences Insurance. Bonded. Residential & Commercial. Free estimates. 432-631-8781

Enriquez Masonry. Professional Brick, Block & Wood Fences. Concrete work & repairs. 25 years experience. Warranty works 432-967-5397.

Fireplaces & Firewood

FIREWOOD by Midland Fireman. Oak, Pinon, Mesquite firewood. Full, half and quarter cords. Free delivery. Also, Tree Trimming services and firewood racks for sale. Call 432-557-2897.

TERRY'S FIREWOOD- Oak - Mesquite - Pecan: Full & 1/2 cords. Free local delivery & stacking. Cheaper price. if picked up. 432-488-7695.

Handyman Services

A TO Z Christian Handyman to all my customer's I'm the Pecos Cantaloupes man. Doing general repairs. I also do Interior/ exterior painting, light fixtures, faucets, minor repairs, ceiling fans. We do it all. Call Jimmy 432-312-6854 or 432-210-4858

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Home Services & Home Improvement

Handyman Services

HANDY MAN work. Ceramic tile remodels, showers, floors, drywall, plumbing & electrical. 40 yrs. experience. Call Slim's Tile Service. 432-218-9287 or 505-274-1312

Heating & Air Conditioning

At your service actionairplumbing.com (432) 620-8900

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679. TALCB005482.

Painting & Wallpaper

DOUBLE TT PAINTING Interior and Exterior Texture, tape & bed Christmas & New Years Special 432-288-7849 or 352-4633.

FEMALE PAINTER: Interior/exterior, residential/commercial very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable. FREE Estimates. 432-250-4643

HENRY'S PAINTING Exterior/Interior, 35yrs exp. Free estimates. Senior Discount. Call 684-8135 / 770-9658

K & J Painting - Midlands Readers' Choice Gold Winner! Interior & exterior painting, drywall repair, tile. Top Quality Work. Free estimates. Kevin Ison, 432-563-3178 or 432-349-6110.

Plumbing

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Septic Installation
actionairplumbing.com 432-620-8900

Hauling

WE HELP YOU GET IT DONE!

GREENWOOD PIT

2 miles East of Greenwood on 307

Crushed Caliche, Base Course, Top Soil, Clean Rock

Residential - Commercial Sales

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Lawn & Garden

All Fall Cleanup/ Holiday Lighting
FREE ESTIMATES
Gutter & drain clean out, lawn services, trim trees and bushes, and removal of dead trees.
Billy - 432-634-5040

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For all your landscaping/ tree trimming needs call Russell 432-557-9622.

EL JARDIN - Trees, Landscape, Irrigation. Experienced Professionals From Start to Finish. New Landscape Design & Installation, Relandscaping, New Lawns & Lawn Restoration. Tree Pruning, Planting, Removal & Health Care. Sprinkler Repair, Modification, New Design & Installation. Drip Irrigation Specialists! 24Years in the Permian Basin. We accept major credit cards. Please call Bruce at 432-770-2399

JOJO'S BEE LAWN & TREE SERVICE
TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL, GRINDING.
BUCKET TRUCK AVAILABLE.
FREE ESTIMATES. INSURED. CALL JOSE RUEDAS 432-684-6745
OR 432-352-7435
JOJOSBEELAWN@YAHOO.COM

Miscellaneous Services

WATER TREATMENT
Culligan of West Texas
Residential & Commercial
FREE WATER ANALYSIS
563-2690

Miscellaneous Services

AMERICAN HOME IMPROVEMENT
Remodeling, Windows, Siding, Outdoor Kitchens, Grills, Fire Pits, Sunrooms, Patios and much more!
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11220 State Highway 191 (Between Midland and Odessa)
http://www.ahi-texas.com
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CUSTOM BUILD websites (you own/or we manage). No Hidden Fees/Contracts. SEM/SEO generate leads for every type of business/service. Discount Pricing. Code, Google and Bing. 903-948-2402

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A-1 FURNITURE MOVING at A-1 Prices. Moving, load, unload, pack, and unpack. Local and long distance. Over 20 years experience. We do Delivenes Free on site estimates. Call 432-425-3738

J & K LOADING AND PACKING SERVICES. 432-553-2416

Musical Instrument Tuning & Repair

EXPERT PIANO Tuning and Repairs Please Call Michael Sherrod At 432-694-3161 For An Appointment.

Personal Services

IRMA'S UPHOLSTERY & DRAPERY 20 yrs exp. 432-352-4633

Classified CAN 682-6222

AAAAA PROFESSIONAL tree pruning, tree & stump removal. Over 20 years experience. Senior discounts. 432-889-3318.

A & G Services. Mowing, edging, tree trimming, shrub removal, planting, mulch, flower beds, clean gutters. All seasons. Free estimates. 432-599-4240.

★★B&L★★ Landscaping & Construction Tree and Stump removals, Certified arborist, dirt work, leveling, clean ups, demolishing, bucket truck, chippers, stump grinders, 432-661-7049 or 432-661-7029

LEYVA LAWN CARE Trees & lawns. Professional & efficient. 432-250-9470

EL JARDIN Keep your Trees strong & healthy this year with our professional level services. Tree healthcare, pruning, planting & removal. 24yrs. exp. in Permian Basin. Call now to schedule fall pruning. We accept major credit cards. 432-770-2399

GENERAL YARD SERVICE Fall cleanup, shrub trimming, planting. Affordable tree service. 432-853-8897

M & M Landscape 22 years experience. Grass sodding, Xeriscaping, tree & shrub removal. Native Midlander 432-230-3372.

MOWING, Tree/Bush Trimming. Call Emilio 432-488-6520.

MURPHY'S LAWN CARE Mowing, edging, trimming, Hedge/ shrub trimming, clean-ups. Bill or Maryann. (432)687-2131

NYKO'S TREE SERVICE Tree trimming & removal full cleanup, & mowing service. Commercial & residential. For free estimates call the Pro at 432-894-8453

RAINBOW LANDSCAPING We do it all! Mowing, edging, beds, flower pot, junk hauling. Free estimates. 20+ years experience, friendly service. Call Bryan at 432-301-5827.

STRACENER IRRIGATION Sprinkler Systems Repairs & Installations License #4933 Call (432) 561-9525

WILL TRIM, prune or uproot just about any tree, very reasonable prices. Call Norman 432-296-1424.

Miscellaneous Services

BLUE'S SPRINKLER System. Installs and repairs. Connect your irrigation to your water well. Lic 8285. 432-889-8963, 684-6977.

In A Hurry? E-Mail Your Ad Today! It's Quick & Easy mrtclassified@mrt.com

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Mobile Homes for Rent

RVs and RV Spaces- All bills included. Call 432-770-7054 or 432-634-0978.

Call Today! 432-682-6222

Mobile Homes for Sale

OWNER CARRY WAC Easy terms. 1975 Solitaire, 3 bed 2 bath 14'x80' with appliances & much more. Low down $500 monthly plus lot rent. Background/ credit check. Must See! 432-631-9682 or 928-812-1389

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today, 682-6999

Ranches

15.6 AC. W. OF MENARD, LIVE OAK, MESQUITE COVER. NATIVE, EXOTIC GAME. $2,485 DOWN, $453/MO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

COMMERCIAL BLDG
For Lease 2817 W. Industrial Ave. Office Area includes reception area, 5 offices, 2 restrooms and break area Shop area includes 1 restroom with overhead door. Gross building area approx 8500 sq ft. Fenced Yard. Call 683-6276 ext 305 leave a message.

Homes for Sale

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

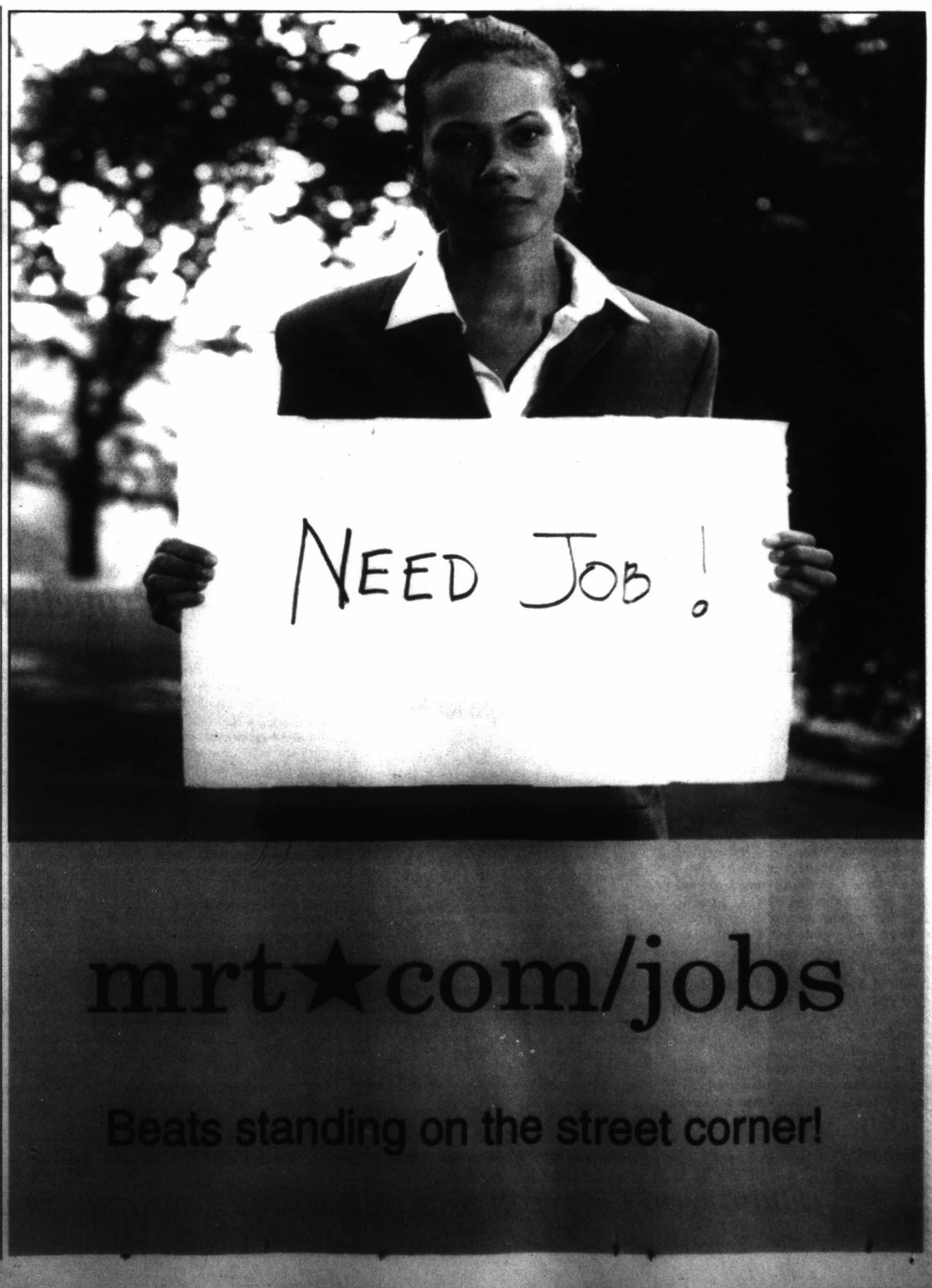
ALL real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations of discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1800-669-9777

Commercial

READY-RANCH
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM



IMPRESSIVE FEAT

Associated Press

The SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifts off at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on Monday. The rocket, carrying 11 communications satellites for Orbcomm, Inc., is the first launch of the rocket since a failed mission to the International Space Station in June.

SpaceX launches Falcon rocket 6 months after accident; lands it

By Marcia Dunn
Associated Press

SpaceX sent a Falcon rocket soaring toward orbit Monday night with 11 small satellites, its first mission since an accident last summer. Then in an even more astounding feat, it landed the 15-story leftover booster back on Earth safely.

It was the first time an unmanned rocket returned to land vertically at Cape Canaveral, Florida, and represented a tremendous success for SpaceX. The company led by billionaire Elon Musk is striving for reusability to drive launch costs down and open up space to more people.

"Welcome back, baby!" Musk tweeted after touchdown.

"It's a revolutionary moment," Musk later told reporters. "No one has ever brought a booster, an orbital-class booster, back intact."

What's significant is that this was a useful mission, Musk noted, not merely a practice flight. "We achieved recovery of the rocket in a mission that actually deployed 11 satellites," he said.

SpaceX employees broke into cheers and chants, some of them jumping up and down, following the smooth touchdown nine minutes after liftoff. Previous landing attempts ended in fiery blasts, but those aimed for an ocean platform.

Musk said he ran outside and heard the sonic boom of the returning booster just as it landed; he assumed it had exploded. He learned the happy truth when he went back into Launch Control and saw video of the standing rocket.

"I can't quite believe it," he said. "It's quite shocking."

Musk said the landing appeared close to perfect, and the company "could not have asked for a better mission or a better day."

The top officer at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Brig. Gen. Wayne Monteith, noted that the returning booster "placed the exclamation mark on 2015."

"This was a first for us at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, and I can't even begin to describe the excitement the team feels right now having been a part of this historic first-stage rocket landing," Monteith said in a statement.

Across the country, SpaceX employees jammed company headquarters in Hawthorne, California, anxiously awaiting success. They cheered at full throttle when the first stage separated cleanly two minutes into flight and reoriented itself for an unprecedented return to Cape Canaveral. Then the roar became deafening, as TV cameras showed the first-stage booster landing on extended legs at its new, dedicated landing zone. SpaceX commentators called it "incredibly exciting" and were visibly moved by the feat.

"This has been a wildly successful return to flight for SpaceX," said one SpaceX launch commentator. "We made history today."

Blue Origin, another billionaire's rocket company, successfully landed a booster last month in West Texas. That rocket, though, had been used for a suborbital flight. The SpaceX booster was more powerful and flying faster in order to put satellites into orbit.

The touchdown was a secondary objective for SpaceX. The first was hoisting the satellites for OrbComm, a New Jersey-based communication company. All 11 were successfully deployed.

Dry ice, not water, responsible for many gullies on Mars, study says

By Amina Khan
Los Angeles Times

Gullies on Mars that appeared to have possibly been carved by water were probably dug out by great chunks of dry ice, a pair of French researchers say.

Even as certain lines of evidence mount for the very occasional occurrence of water on present-day Mars, the findings published by the journal Nature Geoscience serve as a reminder that not every familiar-looking geological feature on Mars has an analogue on Earth.

"When dealing with other worlds, we must take care to remember that unfamiliar processes are possible and even likely in alien environments," Colin Dundas of the U.S. Geological Survey's Astrogeology Science Center, who was not involved in the research, wrote in a commentary on the work.

As NASA orbiters and rovers probe the Red Planet from above and on the ground, there's been growing support for the idea that water was once plentiful on our dry, dusty neighbor. The Mars Science Laboratory rover, known affectionately as Curiosity, has found signs of a long-lasting series of lakes that rose and fell in Gale Crater over many millions of years. Analyses of pebbles in the crater have revealed hints of a sustained river as well. Other papers have posited the idea that Mars once had a large ocean that slowly disappeared over the eons.

All of this was a Mars in the distant past. But even today, researchers are beginning to think there could be some liquid water — albeit very harsh, salty water — that on very rare occasions briefly exists on the surface today. The recent discovery that dark streaks known as "recurring slope lineae" could have been left by contemporary liquid water compelled NASA officials to wax enthusiastic about the planet's current habitability.

"It suggests that it would be possible for there to be life today on Mars," John Grunsfeld, associate administrator of NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington, said at a briefing announcing those results (also published in Nature Geoscience).

Not all streaks on slopes are potential signs of a wet present; far from it, in fact. A pair of French researchers has analyzed different features — Martian gullies in the planet's mid-latitudes, deep channels that on Earth would have looked like they were carved by streams or sliding wet debris. But the proposed explanations would require groundwater discharge, which would be unlikely in the spots where many of these gullies are found, on lone peaks and sand dunes.

"Martian gullies have attracted considerable attention because they resemble terrestrial debris flows formed by the action of liquid water," lead author Cedric Pilorget, a planetary scientist at the Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale in France, wrote in an email. "This has been puzzling because such features are geologically recent (less than a few million years old) and have thus formed during the current cold and dry Martian era. Was water involved, to what extent and what could it mean in terms of habitability?"

Instead, the researchers pointed to another possible cause: frozen carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide is the by far the most abundant gas in the Red Planet's atmosphere, and much of it sticks to the surface in winter, stretching from meter-thick ice caps near the poles to surface frost in the mid-latitudes.

And, as it just so happens, "the distribution of frost correlates with the regions where gullies are most prominent," Dundas wrote. "Moreover, gully activity appears to be seasonal, with a marked preference for the winter and spring — when CO2 frost is observed on mid-latitude slopes."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Here are some New Year's Resolutions — PropellerHeads-style

Dear PropellerHeads: Besides dieting and moving out of mom's basement, what's a typical New Year's resolution for PropellerHeads?

Nice! You're asking for a friend, right? Oh, wait — you don't have any. Are we even now?

I can't speak for all PropellerHeads (although I often do anyway), but my most successful resolution recently was to sharpen my focus at work. Unlike hitting the gym (a perennial favorite), this one was surprisingly easy.

First, a disclaimer: Unless your job description is "pushing a mouse around all day," this information won't help much. But that includes most of us.

Begin with non-technical approaches, like rewards for finishing tasks: no snacks until those TPS reports are in! Some say a fruitful day begins with a clean desk. And outlining the week's goals on paper doesn't hurt either. To-do list sites like Workflowy (workflowy.com) and Wunderlist (wunderlist.com) help here too.

Look into the Pomodoro Technique (pomodorotechnique.com), a timeboxing method (bit.ly/1hcxWUn) used in IT

but relevant for any office work. Or visit coffitivity.com for some productivity-boosting ambient noise.

But the biggest gains come from minimizing distractions.

Keep chatty co-workers at bay with a "do not disturb" sign posted for an hour or two every morning or afternoon. Better yet, don a pair of headphones (music optional) to buy some concentration time. Or quit showering, and the problem will disappear like magic.

For me, all distractions emanate from software instead of people. Track your distractions on paper for a week, or install a tool like Grindstone (epiforge.com/grindstone) or Visual TimeAnalyzer (neuber.com/timeanalyzer) to see where the time goes.

Spoiler alert: It goes to Facebook. Or Twitter or Reddit or similar sites. If there's any left, it goes to email (personal and business) or chat.

So eliminate non-essential notifications on phones and tablets during work hours. Turn off your phone or use an app like Silent Hours for Android (bit.ly/1yvizif) or the iPhone's "Do Not Disturb" feature to silence your device while at the office.

On your work computer, disable chat or messaging programs not used for work. Ask co-workers to switch from chat to email, which you can ignore temporarily.

Unless your job is responding to emergencies, disable pop-up notifications displayed by Outlook, Gmail, and similar tools whenever messages arrive. Instead, check your email every few hours, between more important tasks.

Few emails require prompt replies and the constant distraction makes it impossible to concentrate on "real work." This change alone saved me almost an hour every day.

What if responding to emergencies is part of your job? Then save low-priority emails until the end of the day. Even taking 30 seconds to dispatch a reply right away kills focus.

For personal email, try Unroll.me (unroll.me), which combines subscription emails into daily digests for quicker viewing.

Facebook, Twitter, and Gmail display unread message counts on your browser tab. Avoid that distraction by staying logged out and closing the tab. You're less likely to check them constantly when it requires logging in every time. Facebook is especially bad since it beeps whenever your cousin's teacher's niece's hairdresser posts to your wall.

Since Facebook addiction is sort-of a real thing now, try Cold Turkey (getcoldturkey.com). It will block any site for a specified period of time and cannot be easily defeated once enabled. Mac users, try Self Control instead (selfcontrolapp.com). Or try browser plug-ins like Facebook Blocker (bit.ly/181teAn), StayFocusd for Chrome (bit.ly/1aRSHzp), and LeechBlock for Firefox (mzl.la/1cKO3Td).

Again, set aside a time to catch up on all 476 of your "friends" and bask in all those tweets.

Use all that newfound time to come up with better jokes! And FYI, we get plenty of exercise climbing those basement stairs during snack breaks.

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